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WASHTENAW JEWISH NEWS

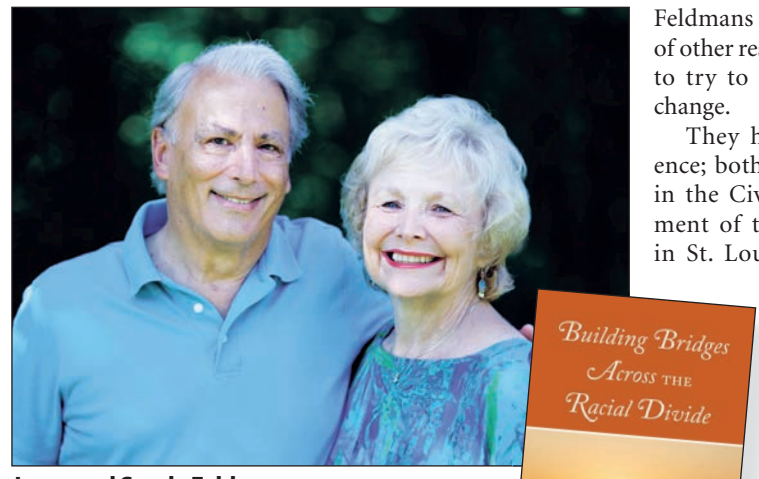
November 2019 Cheshvan/Kislev 5780 Volume XIX Number 3 FREE

Building Bridges Across the Racial Divide with Larry and Sandy Feldman

Sandor Slomovits, special to the WJN

Larry and Sandy Feldman will discuss their book, *Building Bridges Across the Racial Divide* at the Crazy Wisdom Bookstore on Saturday, November 9, from 2-4 p.m. My brother Laz and I, as the duo Gemini, have had the great honor and pleasure of singing many times with All God's Children, the multi-racial, multi-ethnic children's choir that the Feldmans founded in 1999. Both Laz and I will be at the reading and will introduce Sandy and Larry with one of our songs that is part of the choir's repertoire.

The Feldmans have lived in Southwest Michigan, near the twin cities of Benton Harbor and St. Joseph since 1997. Originally drawn there by the natural beauty of the area, they quickly discovered a noticeably less lovely aspect of their new community. The two cities, Benton Harbor and St. Joseph, are highly segregated, with Benton Harbor being almost entirely African American, and St. Joseph similarly homogenously white. And, as Alex Kotlowitz showed in his book, *The Other Side of the River* the two cities were separate and unequal in a number of ways, and the "… segregation, economic inequality, alienation, hostility and mistrust that existed between these two communities were representative of the state of race relations throughout America." The publication of Kotlowitz's 1998 book served as a wakeup call to people in both communities, and the Feldmans joined a number of other residents of the area to try to create beneficial change.



Larry and Sandy Feldman

They had long experience; both had been active in the Civil Rights movement of the 1960s, Sandy in St. Louis and Larry in Baltimore. "In the 1990s we joined a group called Project Unity in Oak Park, Illinois, where we lived at the time. This group's mission was to bring together adults from different racial groups for regular meetings in each other's homes to discuss race-related issues, share social experiences, and come to know one another as individuals, rather than stereotypes."

Larry continues, "I was led to racial diversity and racial justice work by my Jewish heritage. Being a member of a persecuted minority heightened my awareness of racial and ethnic injustice and my commitment to work for racial equality. During the Civil Rights era I was appalled by the discrimination and violence against African-Americans. I was inspired by the work of Martin Luther King, Jr., John Lewis, and the other leaders of the movement. I was also inspired by the activism of Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel, who joined hands with Dr. King and protested the evils of racism. I felt compelled to do all I could to build bridges across the racial divide and to actively work to correct the social inequities in this area."

Sandy adds, "This work began for me with exposure to the role models in my family. My grandfather was alternately honored or vilified in the Methodist Church, depending on the Bishop in charge. Grandpa set up Inter-

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Israeli human rights activist Naomi Chazan in Ann Arbor November 24

Judy Ravin and Michael Appel, special to the WJN

Professor Naomi Chazan, former Deputy Speaker of the Knesset and a leading Israeli human rights activist,

Naomi Chazan

will speak in Ann Arbor on Sunday, November 24 on "A Shared Struggle: Democratic Values in Israel and America." Her public talk, at 7p.m. at Beth Israel Congregation, is sponsored by the New Israel Fund, the leading organization advancing and defending democracy in Israel through its support of progressive Israeli civil society.

The Ann Arbor community is invited to a special evening with Professor Chazan who will address questions including: What does the struggle to uphold Israel's democracy look like at this moment? What are its implications for Jewish life in the United States? She will shed light on developments in Israel and the United States and the implications for both countries

Over the past two years, the American Jewish community has mobilized against policies in the United States that strike at the heart of democratic values. For Naomi Chazan and other Israeli leaders, this struggle is not new. For years, they have confronted the erosion of democratic values and the rise

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Jewish Community, Race, and Social Justice: An Evening with Ilana Kaufman

Ashley Schnaar, special to the WJN

Ilana Kaufman, Executive Director of the Jews of Color Field Building Initiative will speak at the University of Michigan on Tuesday, November 5. Kaufman, who formerly worked as a Public Affairs and Civic Engagement Director for the San Francisco, California Jewish Community Relations Council, now focuses her work on grantmaking that supports the full inclusion of Jews of Color in Jewish communities. Jews of Color have historically been underrepresented in Jewish institutions and largely invisible in Jewish demographic studies. Through the Jews of Color Field Building Initiative, Kaufman develops more accurate demographic information about how many American Jews of Color there are and how to have the deep discussions that will lead to more Jewish communities that represent and include Jews of Color. In addition to a public talk, Kaufman will be meeting with a Judaic Studies class, Hillel students, and the Jewish Communal Leadership Program student seminar.

Ilana Kaufman

Ilana Kaufman's talk, "Jewish Community, Race, and Social Justice" will be presented

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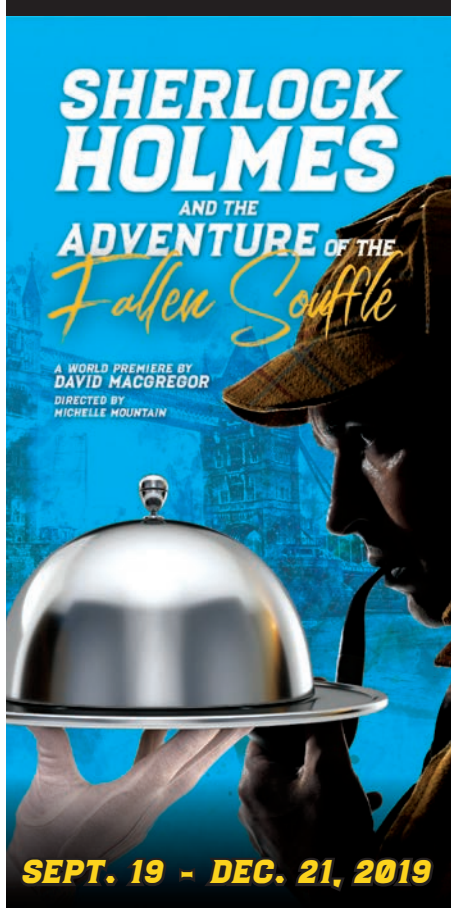

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From the Editor

It's been almost a full year that I've been the publisher/editor of the WJN. I hope I've put out a newspaper that includes news and opinions of interest to all Jews in Washtenaw County, whether or not you are affiliated with a congregation or other community organization. For many in our community, Jewish identity is a central source of strength, for others connection to Judaism and the Jewish people is fragile, tenuous or conflicted. All of you are on my mind as I put together these pages. Diversity in our community is longstanding--we have always been a mixed multitude—but we are living in especially divisive times. A time of change, with a press of uncertainty weighing on us. I aim to fill the pages of WJN with thoughtful and upbeat news of people doing things that inspire. But this month, along with reports of our good works, I had to include a cloud of reports of anti-Semitic attacks. At a time like this, our work is to increase hope, and kindness and compassion between people. If you'd like to share your own thoughts on our times with the Washtenaw Jewish community, please send them to me. ■

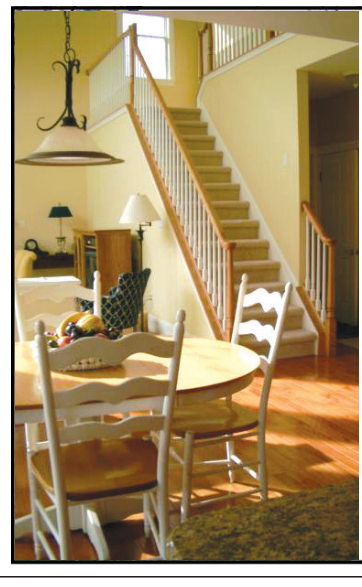
Clare Kinberg

Building Bridges, continued from page 1

faith panels of ministers, priests, and rabbis to grapple with challenging spiritual and social issues. When 'church ladies' complained about Black and Brown boys 'loitering' near the church, he raised funds and recruited a group from the church brotherhood to convert the basement into a bowling alley. He hired the teens outside as pin setters. My mother was the only White nurse who would go into the notorious Pruitt-Igoe projects in St. Louis to serve Black patients. Later in life, as a nurse at Hawthorne Center outside of Detroit, she initiated a project in which volunteers across racial lines worked together to build a state-of-the-art playground for the children and teens and recruited volunteer dentists so that quality dental care could be provided on the school grounds.

"My education and work as a social worker reinforced my commitment to equity and social justice. In grad school, three of us (from Washington University, University of Chicago, and University of Michigan) formed the Graduate School Students of Social Work Committee for Civil Rights. My first field work assignment was serving as a psychotherapist for concentration camp survivors at the Jewish Center for the Aged in St. Louis. It was a life changing assignment, which strengthened my resolve to work against prejudice and discrimination and deepened my commitment to the continuing study of Judaism and the Jewish people. The concept of tikkun olam resonated with my soul."

Soon after moving to Southwest Michigan, the Feldmans helped start a wide variety of racial diversity initiatives, including the Race Relations Council of Southwest Michigan, the All God's Children Community Choir, and Calling All Colors. "Our work with the All God's Children Community Choir and the Calling All Colors program has been enormously gratifying. If we are ever to live in a world in which everyone is judged by the 'content of their character' rather than the color of their skin, children need to know one another as individuals, not stereotypes. In both All God's Children and Calling All Colors we have seen this process happen, over and over again. The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children and teens in these programs share positive experiences, work together toward common goals, and develop personal relationships. Members of the choir have shared play dates at each other's homes, attended community events together, performed in small groups at Open Mics, and participated in each other's weddings. Their families have shared many positive experiences and developed meaningful friendships.

We love hearing about stories of chance encounters in the local mall, at the Youth Fair, at football games. Parents and teachers describe situations in which Calling All Colors buddies or All God's Children Choir members greet each other with an enthusiastic shout out or warm hug. In our area, onlookers take notice of such encounters."

Sandy and Larry's new book details these and other diversity initiatives that they, and many others across the United States, have used to "combat entrenched racial prejudice and segregation in American life." *Building Bridges Across the Racial Divide* is really a textbook, a how to book, a valuable tool for anyone who wishes to work healing these long-standing divisions. Larry and Sandy are engaging, delightful, inspiring speakers; they will share uplifting, hopeful stories from their years of work in this vital field. Please join us. ■

Israeli human rights activist Naomi Chazan, from page 1

of right-wing nationalism in Israel. Recent trends, including those that appeared in Israel's September elections, illustrate key similarities in the struggles for equality, inclusion and democracy in both countries.

Chazan is Professor Emerita of Political Science and African Studies at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, where she served as Chair of the Harry S. Truman Research Institute for the Advancement of Peace. She is currently Dean of the School of Government and Society at the Academic College of Tel-Aviv-Yaffo and Director of the Center for the Advancement of Women in the Public Sphere at the Van Leer Institute in Jerusalem. Chazan served as president of the New Israel Fund (NIF) from 2008-2012 and on the NIF Board from 1992-93. She resigned upon being elected to the Knesset representing the Meretz party, and rejoined the Board in January 2007.

Chazan's advocacy has often emphasized the status of women in the larger struggle for civil rights in Israel and that remains true today. "In the second iteration of Israeli general elections this year, women have moved from being an object of party persuasion to being a defining subject of the electoral campaign," Chazan recently wrote in a blog for the *Times of Israel*. "The politicization of gender relations and the questioning of gender equality highlights the broader challenges facing liberal democracy in contemporary Israel."

The New Israel Fund (NIF) was founded in 1979 to actualize the vision of Israel's founders of a Jewish and democratic state that, in the words of the Declaration of Independence, "ensures complete equality of social and political rights to all its inhabitants irrespective of religion, race, or sex." Over the past 40 years, NIF has provided over $300 million to more than 900 trailblazing organizations, building the foundations of progressive civil society in Israel. NIF and its grantees have made great strides on issues central to safeguarding Israel's democracy—from mainstreaming Jewish-Arab economic parity, to challenging the state-sanctioned monopoly of haredi (ultra-Orthodox) Judaism, to achieving precedent-setting legal victories against discrimination.

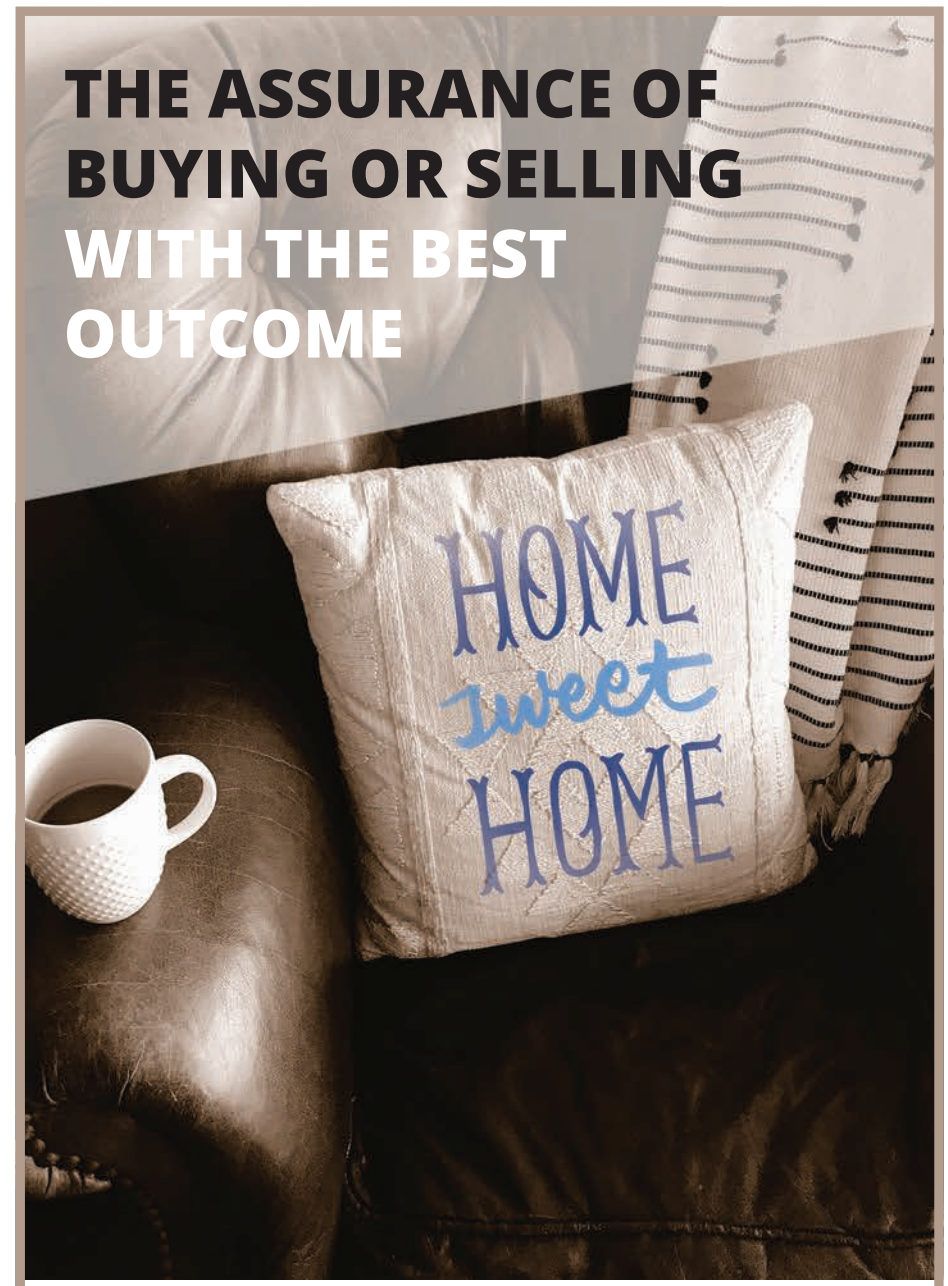
Professor Chazan's talk is on November 24, 7pm at Beth Israel Congregation, 2000 Washtenaw. Sponsored by the New Israel Fund, local co-sponsors include Beth Israel Congregation, Temple Beth Emeth, the Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Congregation, the Jewish Cultural Society, the JCC of Greater Ann Arbor, the Israel Center @ the J, the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor and the Jewish Communal Leadership Program at the University of Michigan. ■

An Evening with Ilana Kaufman, from page 1

free and open to the public at 7-9 pm. The event will be held in the Educational Conference Center of the School of Social Work (1080 S University Ave). She will discuss the intersection of U.S. Jewish identity and race, as animated by modern movements for social justice. Informed by community pain-points such as Jewish communal reactions to the Women's March and the Movement for Black Lives Platform, Kaufman will explore notions of anti-Semitism, community and movement-building, and how to effectively partner with groups despite some fundamental disagreements and tensions.

The event is co-sponsored by a number of U-M departments and programs including the Jewish Communal Leadership Program within the School of Social Work at the University of Michigan, the Trotter Multicultural Center, and Michigan Hillel. The Trotter Multicultural Center is a newer partner in efforts to bring meaningful Jewish programming to the University community. Trotter was established in 1971 and was until recently housed in an old fraternity building on Washtenaw Ave. That building served as a home base for students of color at the University of Michigan. Student groups would use the building as a venue to host meetings and events. Along with its brand new building, located at 428 S. State St., Trotter updated its vision and mission with a renewed focus on the inclusion of all students with multicultural identities, including Jewish students. Generous donor gifts have provided funding to support Trotter programming that brings together Jewish and non-Jewish students for educational and informal events. Last winter, Trotter hired a graduate student, Ashley Schnaar, to manage Trotter's Jewish programming and she has created a committee of fourteen UM students, both undergraduate and graduate, to guide programming that students feel is needed on campus. ■

Ashley Schnaar is a second-year student in the Jewish Communal Leadership Program at the University of Michigan focusing on Management of Human Service Organizations. She hopes to return to Metro Detroit after graduation to pursue a career in the Jewish non-profit field.



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Garden of Remembrance vandalized on Yom Kippur

Special to the WJN *from a newsbrief by Marcy Oster for the JTA*

Stickers and posters described as hateful and anti-Semitic were discovered at a Holocaust memorial in suburban New York on the eve of Yom Kippur. The desecration was found at the Holocaust Garden of Remembrance in White Plains, in Westchester County. Writing described as anti-Semitic also was found on a sign outside the garden and inside the park as well, WABC-TV reported.

The Garden of Remembrance, created by the Westchester Holocaust Commission (since renamed the Holocaust and Human Rights Education Center), was dedicated in 1992. Ann Arbor community member Joy Wolfe Ensor writes, "My late father, Leon Wolfe — who survived the Kraków Ghetto and three concentration camps — was a founding member of the original commission that created the Garden. He had been active for years in Holocaust education, speaking frequently at public and private schools in the metropolitan New York area. The Garden of Remembrance was his cherished project, memorializing the experiences that he, my late mother, their family members and so many millions of others endured during World War II."

The centerpiece of the Garden is a large public sculpture called the "Gates of Remembrance." The sculptor was Wolfe Ensor's late stepmother, Rita Rapaport. For the last 27 years, the Garden (located just outside the County Executive Building in downtown White Plains) has been a peaceful oasis of contemplation and remembrance. Until this year, there was never an untoward incident.

"Each element of the gate has its own symbolism. The gateposts are in the shape of the Hebrew letter vav (which has the numerical value of 6), representing the six million Jews who perished in the Holocaust. The posts' shapes also evoke the flames of the crematoria, and the gates themselves recall prison bars. The five plaques on the gates represent different aspects of the Holocaust. One depicts the word "Zachor" ("Remember"); one barbed wire; one a Bible in flames, commemorating Kristallnacht; one the broken tablets of the Ten Commandments, and one a torn piece of a concentration camp inmate's uniform — with my father's prisoner number. That this particular desecration occurred at a place to which I have a close personal connection is particularly distressing. But that it occurred on the eve of Yom Kippur, when we pray and learn and meditate and repent of our soul-failures and yearn for a time when we beat our swords into ploughshares and know no more war and hatred, is painful beyond words," says Wolfe Ensor

In the wake of the incident the materials and graffiti were quickly cleaned up and the county stepped up police patrols. The next day, over 350 White Plains community members gathered at the Interfaith Prayer Vigil held at the Garden. Remarks were delivered by Westchester County Executive George Latimer, Rabbi Daniel Gropper, President of the Westchester Board of Rabbis and Rabbi at Community Synagogue of Rye and Rev. Susan Copley, Rector of Christ/San Marcos Episcopal Church in Tarrytown as well as a representative from Governor Andrew Cuomo's office. ■

Grand Rapids, Michigan synagogue's doors plastered with hate posters

Marcy Oster

(JTA) — The doors of a synagogue in Grand Rapids, Michigan were plastered with posters described by police as anti-Semitic.

Rabbi Michael Schadick of Temple Emanuel discovered the posters on Sunday morning, prior to the start of Sunday School at the synagogue.

Local media did not report the contents of the posters. But photos of the posters were disseminated on social media and reported by the Jerusalem Post. One of the posters features an image of Adolf Hitler with the words "Did you forget about me?" A second calls for a "crusade against Semite-led subhumans."

The synagogue is holding its regular activities, including Sunday School and programming for the Sukkot holiday.

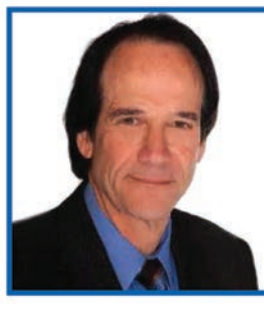
"Standing in solidarity with our Jewish friends and neighbors. And standing united in rejecting these acts of hatred and anti-Semitism," Grand Rapids Mayor Rosalynn Bliss tweeted.

A Facebook message from the synagogue read in part: "Today, we need your compassion, caring, strength and protection. Today, please stand united with us and ensure hate crimes end in our city. Love must win."

Grand Rapids Police are investigating the incident as a hate crime.

Less than a month ago, swastikas and the symbol of the Nazi SS were painted on the outside of a historic synagogue in the northern Michigan city of Hancock.

Cary Fleischer, Michigan Democratic Jewish Caucus Grand Rapids chair and member of Temple Emanuel, said in a statement issued by the group, that "it is high time that all of us, as Americans, come together and speak out against these acts of hate, which afflict so many of our communities. We must work together to bring kindness and respect for our differences back to our country." ■



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HDS receives a $1.8M pledge

Jennifer Rosenberg, special to the WJN

Hebrew Day School of Ann Arbor has secured a pledge from an anonymous donor for a gift of $1.8 million. This is, by a considerable margin, the largest donation the school has received since opening its doors in 1975, and it will support all aspects of the school's operation. The pledge marks the latest in a series of fundraising successes for Hebrew Day School, which has received generous support in recent years from the Jeffrey Farber Family Foundation, the David and Nanci Farber Family Foundation, Mickey and Debbie Stern, the Allen Foundation, and others.

Leaders of the HDS community are thrilled with the news. Gil Seinfeld, current President of the HDS Board, shared news of the gift with HDS families and staff shortly after the school year began. His email explained: "The magnitude of this gift is, of course, extraordinary, but the instincts underlying it are familiar. It reflects deep appreciation for the value of Jewish education—an understanding of the fact that Day Schools have a profound and durable effect on their students' sense of Jewish identity, and of the central role Day Schools can play in an entire community's Jewish experience." Seinfeld noted that this gift "will help scores of Jewish families in Ann Arbor to partake of the warm, proud, deeply connected Jewish community [his] family has enjoyed since moving to Ann Arbor."

Greg Gafni-Pappas, the immediate past President of the HDS Board, noted: "This is extraordinarily exciting news for our school. It's no secret that there has been a decline in Day School enrollment across the country in recent years, and that, of course, can create significant financial challenges for schools. We have confronted some of these challenges at HDS, but we have been able to continue to supply an excellent product to our families because of generous support from our families, the Ann Arbor Jewish community, especially the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor, and dedicated supporters of Jewish education elsewhere in Michigan and throughout the United States. This gift builds on that tradition and will enable us to continue our important work."

Sam Hendren, who has served on the HDS Board since 2016 and currently sits on its Executive Committee, emphasized that the benefits of this gift to HDS will extend far beyond Hebrew Day School families. "[T]here is ample evidence," she explained, "of the relationship between Jewish education and having a strong, positive sense of Jewish identity as an adult. Day School graduates are more likely to be vibrant participants in, and leaders of, their Jewish communities when they grow older. So the consequences of this gift will ripple far into the future and far beyond Ann Arbor, as our students go off to lead engaged Jewish lives wherever they choose to settle down."

This generous gift marks an important step toward a more secure future for the Hebrew Day School of Ann Arbor. ■

2019 Arts Around Town Explores Jewish Identity and Parenting

Clara Silver, special to the WJN

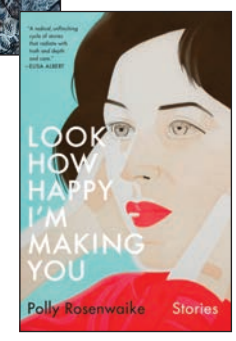
The Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor is holding its 32nd Arts Around Town: Jewish Book and Arts Festival beginning Sunday, November 10 and spread over several weeks, ending Tuesday, December 17. It is full of events that touch on the modern challenges in acknowledging people's multiple identities. This year's festival also has events for people of every age.

Tomer Persico

The opening event, on Sunday, November 10 at 11a.m., is "Bagels, Schmear, and Parenting with Two Authors," looks at parenting from two perspectives. Author Polly Rosenwaike will speak about her book *Look How Happy I'm Making You: Stories*, which explores the identity of motherhood through the variety of experiences shared in the stories in the book. From infertility to the motherless wondering about becoming mothers, Rosenwaike shines a spotlight on the complexities of becoming and being a parent. Also presenting will be author Jenny Traig, whose book is as hilarious as it is disturbing as *Act Natural: A Cultural History of Misadventures in Parenting* interrogates the long and winding road of parenting techniques. This event will cost $12/person or $10/member of the Ann Arbor JCC. Childcare will be provided for $5 per family and pre-registration is required.

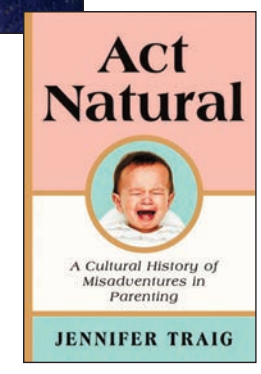
The festival continues on November 21 at 7 p.m. with author Kirsten Fermaglich, who will present *A Rosenberg by Any Other Name: A History of Jewish Name Changing in America* This is a book that explores the history of the practice of Jewish name changing in the 20th century. While the common notion is that only movie stars adopted new names or insensitive Ellis Island officials changed immigrants' names involuntarily, Fermaglich reveals a much more profound story of ordinary Jews choosing to legally change their names as a response to the upsurge of anti-Semitism. Offering a window into American Jewish life throughout the 20th century, Fermaglich demonstrates how aspects of identity including race, class, mobility, gender, and family, along with the boundaries of the Jewish community and even the power of government are reshaped when name changing becomes part of the conversation. In addition, she shows how this practice created personalized pain within families and became a stigmatized and forgotten aspect of American Jewish culture. This event will be $8/person or $6/member of the Ann Arbor JCC.

Polly Rosenwake



The Israel Center @ the J launches its Hartman Institute of North America partnership programming for the year as part of Arts Around Town on Sunday, November 24 at 10 a.m. with a brunch presentation featuring scholar, professor, and author Tomer Persico, Ph.D. Dr. Persico will present "Reimagining Judaism in Israel: Ethno-Nationalism and the Privatization of Tradition." Over the last three decades major changes have transformed the Jewish religious and social landscape in Israel, with traditional barriers becoming more fluid and novel ways of expressing Jewish identity emerging. With secular Zionism losing its once dominant influence, combined with the rise of religious Zionism and Ultra-Orthodoxy, Israelis are having an identity crisis. At the same time, Dr. Persico will explore the "Jewish Renaissance" taking place as Israeli Jews are developing an individualistic interest in Jewish tradition, as others are anchoring their Jewish identity in ethnicity and nationalism. Dr. Persico will unpack these layers of Jewish identity and talk about how the current landscape is impacting Israel, and beyond. This event is presented free of charge through funding from the D. Dan and Betty Kahn Foundation. Registration is requested to ensure appropriate seating and amounts of food.

Jennifer Traig



On Monday, November 25 at 5:45 p.m., the festival hosts the first of two family focused events, "Turkey-less Thanksgiving," in partnership with PJ Library. Inspired by the story *Not this Turkey*, families we share in a Turkey-less mock Thanksgiving and explore the themes of the book. When and immigrant family's plans to celebrate Thanksgiving go wrong, what do they do? The event will include crafts, a reading of the story, and food. The cost will be $7 per person over 2 years old.

Continuing the festival will be "Jazz at the J" on Thursday, December 5 at 7 p.m. featuring vocalist Nicole New and pianist Cliff Monear. Both performers are Michigan based and have made names for themselves in the Jazz community. New is Detroit's leading female band leader with a voice described as reminiscent of Billie Holiday with influences of Pop, Opera, and Musical Theater. Monear heads the jazz group "The Cliff Monear Trio" and has a busy performance schedule as well as teaching at Wayne State University. This event will be $12/person or $10/member of the Ann Arbor JCC.

On Sunday, December 8 Arts Around Town presents the opening reception for "Intriguing People on Our Planet," a photography exhibition housed in the Amster Gallery by local artist, Nancy Margolis. The photographs were taken all over the world, and showcase the diversity of human identity. This event is present free of charge.

The closing event will be a family oriented "Chanukah Sing-a-Long," on Tuesday, December 17 at 5:45 p.m. Co-sponsored by the Ann Arbor JCC's Early Childhood Center, this popular evening brings people of all ages together for dinner, singing, and dancing in celebration of the coming holiday. This event will cost $5 per person over 2 years old, and will include a pizza dinner.

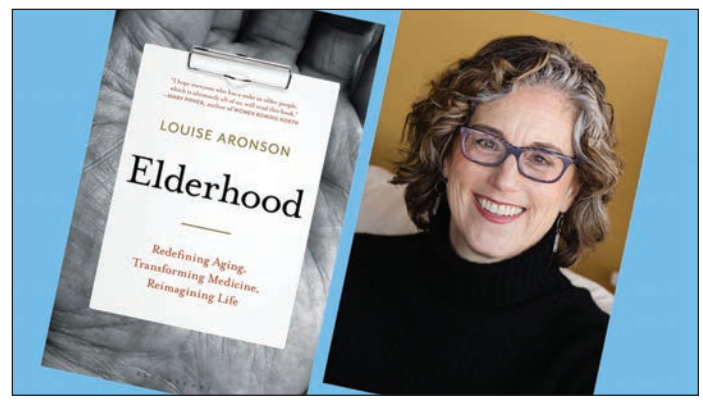
The majority of funding for "Arts Around Town: Jewish Book and Arts Festival" comes from individual contributions and sponsorships from members of the Jewish community. Those interested in providing financial support or joining next year's committee for the festival should contact Noemi Herzig, the Ann Arbor JCC's new director of Jewish cultural arts and education at noemiherzig@jccannarbor.org or by calling (734) 971-0990. All events this year will be held at the Ann Arbor JCC at 2935 Birch Hollow Drive, and registration is available online at book.jccannarbor.org. ■

Elderhood author Lousie Aronson at JFS symposium

Chelsie Kastl, special to the WJN

In June of 2019, award-winning author and physician Louise Aronson released *Elderhood: Redefining Aging, Transforming Medicine, Reimagining Life*, a book that provides new, positive perspective on the process of growing old. Aronson, a geriatrician who received training at Harvard who also serves as a professor of medicine at the University of California, San Francisco, blends scientific knowledge and professional experience with literature, popular culture, and memoir to create a guide for approaching old age. Anecdotes from 25 years of patient care, as well as tales from her own experiences with aging, illustrate the joy and fulfillment that can be found in the latter years of one's life – which, now, after modern increase in human life spans, can span a period of forty years or more.

Aronson uses her book to address issues within the American health care system that she considers to be structured in a way that disadvantages the elderly. She discusses issues of insurance coverage, considers medical studies' ignorance of the elderly, and reveals the medical education system's consideration of normal aging symptoms as abnormalities. In considering these problems, Aronson promotes the notion that the health care system is broken in a way that affects everyone; after all, in theory, most will reach old age and have to deal with such issues.



Elderhood also addresses Aronson's claim that a cultural attitude shift is necessary to improve how the public views the process of growing old. The book infuses multiple perspectives on the matter, citing pyscho-social, evolutionary, and biological theories on aging. Additionally, Aronson invokes the wisdom of philosophers from various cultures, insuring that the views presented are not based only on one, singular system of norms and beliefs. She injects her personal perspective into the discussion by analyzing her own struggle with deciding whether or not to continue dyeing her grey hair – a decision that is greatly complicated by society's treatment of those who appear to be in the later stages of life. By painting this layered picture of the ways in which aging is conceptualized in today's world, Aronson is able to suggest a shift in popular ideology.

Elderhood urges readers to reconsider their notions of old age, and to better prepare themselves for their future. Aronson paints a vision of a world in which old age is a period in which people can thrive and achieve great personal fulfilment. However, she doesn't shy away from addressing that great changes must be made to make such a dream a reality.

Louise Aronson will be speaking in Ann Arbor at Jewish Family Services' Innovations in Aging Symposium as the key note speaker on Thursday, November 7. The event is set to take place at the Rackham Graduate Building from 8:30a.m. to 4:30p.m. ■

Yiddish treasures for now

Review by Beth Dwoskin

In September, the Frankel Institute kicked off its theme year on "Yiddish Matters" with a concert by Daniel Kahn, Jake Shulman-Ment, and Yeva Lapsker, in collaboration with the University of Michigan School of Music. Held in the music school's Britton Hall, the concert featured Jake Shulman-Ment on violin and Daniel Kahn on piano, guitar, and accordion, with Yeva Lapsker displaying graphics and supertitles on a big screen.

The concert was a great opportunity to hear highlights from Daniel Kahn's repertoire. He included his two signature works by Mordechai Gebertig, the popular musician of interwar Poland, whose highly accessible tunes are now standards of Yiddish song. One of them, "Avremele" is the story of a pickpocket who narrates his life story with the resignation of an orphan whose fate was determined from childhood. The other "Arbetlozer Marsh" (March of the Jobless Corps) is a true labor anthem, describing the throwaway life of the factory worker under capitalism.

These songs are prime examples of Daniel Kahn's greatest strength – reworking the treasures of the Yiddish musical canon to make them relevant for modern audiences, musically and politically. He does this by retaining the Jewish musical sensibility while mixing in rock motifs and instruments, and by creatively translating the Yiddish words so that they work metrically in English, while allowing the original meaning to remain. He also sings the verses alternately in English and Yiddish, so that the listener is hearing the words as they're sung, rather than as a narrative before the song, which is what other singers often do when presenting a song in a foreign language.

In addition to the Gebertig songs, Daniel Kahn sang "Shtil, di nakht iz oysgeshternt" (which he translates as "Silent Stars") by Vilna ghetto composer Hirsh Glik, about a real-life heroine of the Vilna Partisans who blocked a Nazi convoy; "How the Jews Got to Europe," a mordant summary of Jewish history, written by Yiddishist Michael Wex; "Nine un Nayntsik," a song about being a member of the economic 99 percent in New York, by contemporary Yiddish songwriter Josh Waletzky; and "Freedom is a Verb," a Kahn original. These songs and others from the program are all available on *The Butcher's Share*, Daniel Kahn's latest CD with his group, the Painted Bird.

Throughout the concert, the screen behind the musicians displayed the work of artist Eric Drooker. Drooker is a hugely successful artist whose work is a kind of graphic mirror of Daniel Kahn's music, with its passion for justice and truth and its stark, lean power. His images are a remarkably perfect match for Daniel Kahn's tough but poignant lyrics. Eric Drooker's bestselling graphic novels include *Flood! A Novel in Pictures* and *Blood Song: A Silent Ballad*. He has drawn numerous covers for *The New Yorker*. Some of Drooker's work from this performance is also featured in the packaging of *The Butcher's Share*.

Daniel Kahn is a native of the Detroit area who attended the Residential College at the University of Michigan, where he studied theater and poetry. In 2005, he moved to Berlin, but he collaborates with klezmer musicians in New York and around the world, and he is a fixture in the international Yiddish world. In 2015, he played Biff in the New Yiddish Rep production of *Death of a Salesman* in Yiddish, and he was the original Perchik in the Yiddish production of *Fiddler on the Roof* that is currently playing in New York. *The Butcher's Share* is his fifth album.

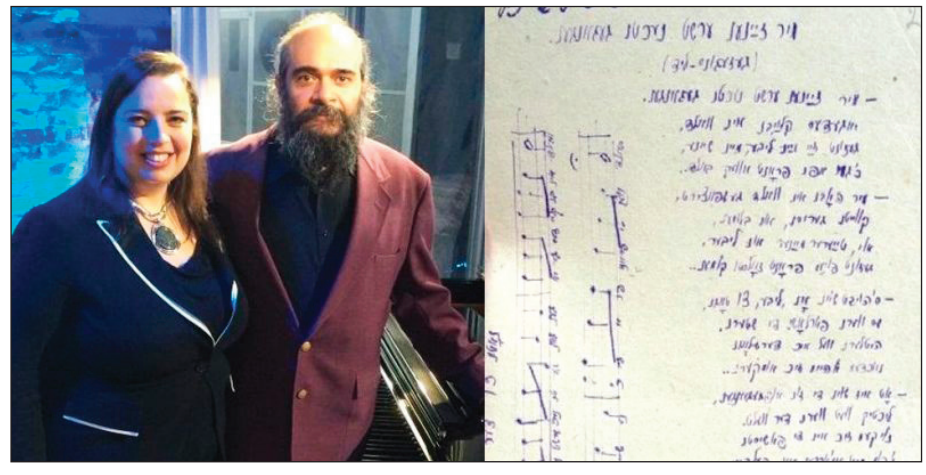
At the end of the concert, Daniel Kahn gave a shout-out to the Prison Creative Arts Project, a unit of the University of Michigan School of Literature, Science and the Arts that was founded in 1990 by English professor Buzz Alexander, who died in September. The project has expanded to encompass arts across campus, with a core course load and a study abroad component, but in the years that Daniel Kahn attended U-M it was primarily a program that brought theater into prisons. Kahn called it a "life-changing experience" and sang a tribute to the men he met in prison, his Yiddish translation of Bob Dylan's "I Shall Be Released." ■

Yiddish Glory, lost songs found

Beth Dwoskin, special to the WJN

In mid-September, the Eastern Michigan University Center for Jewish Studies presented *Yiddish Glory: the Lost Songs of World War II*. *Yiddish Glory* is a performance of songs written by amateur musicians who were ghetto fighters, partisans, and Soviet Army soldiers during World War II. The program took place in the ballroom of EMU's Student Center and it featured the two founders of the project: Professor Anna Shternshis of the University of Toronto, who discovered the songs, and Psoy Korolenko, a multi-talented singer and musician who is a leading interpreter of modern Jewish music. Though this program has been performed elsewhere with an ensemble and other singers, at EMU the audience heard the strong and poignant voice of Psoy Korolenko alone, accompanying himself on piano with the music that he created. Before each song, Professor Shternshis explained the song's origin and the lyrics, which were displayed in English, Hebrew, and Russian while Psoy sang in Yiddish.

The songs of *Yiddish Glory* were collected during and after the war by a team of ethnomusicologists led by Moisei Beregovsky. The prominent modern Jewish ethnomusicologist, Marc Slobin, calls Beregovsky " the foremost ethnomusicologist of Eastern European Jewry." Beregovsky was mandated to collect the music in his position as an employee of the Institute of Jewish Proletarian Culture. The Institute was the official Communist government academic establishment for the study of Jewish culture in Ukraine. It was charged with collecting material on Jewish folk, or "proletarian" arts. Much of the most important Jewish folk music ever collected, recorded, or notated was deposited in Kiev under the auspices of the Institute, and much of it is still there.



One of the most striking elements of the songs of *Yiddish Glory* is their consistent praise for Stalin. From the perspective of Russian Jews on the eastern front, Stalin and the Soviet Army were saviors in their battle against Hitler. The songs are militaristic and filled with violent imagery and glorification of weaponry. As the tide of the war turned, the songs filled with savage mockery of Hitler and his impending defeat. Though these songs ring hollow in our day, for many of the composers Hitler was only the latest in the historical parade of anti-Semites, and Stalin's crimes against Jews were mitigated by his leadership of the battle against Germany. It took years of clear-eyed historical perspective to reveal the full scale of destruction wrought by the two worst anti-Semites of the modern era.

Professor Shternshis described how after the war, Soviet policy avoided any mention of Jewish suffering as being unique in the narrative of the war. Like other Russians, Jews learned to keep their mouths shut, and the truth about the Holocaust was even slower to penetrate their consciousness than it was in the West. According to Professor Shternshis, Beregovsky thought of a clever tactic to collect material in the post-war years. He went to schools and talked to young children, some of them born during the war, to ask them if they had songs or if they had heard any. Then he asked them where they first heard them. The young political innocents told him the truth about where they learned the song and from whom.

By the end of the 1940's, anti-Semitism was official policy in Stalin's Russia. The Institute of Jewish Proletarian Culture was closed and Beregovsky was imprisoned. He was "rehabilitated" in 1955 and continued to work on the materials he collected. His archives ended up at the Vernadsky Library, the national library of Ukraine. Scholars have been using and publishing his work for decades, but the songs he collected during the war were unnoticed until Professor Shternshis visited the library for her research on Yiddish language the Soviet era. Librarians at the Vernadsky Library directed her to a box of Beregovsky's papers, which contained the original, mostly handwritten lyrics to songs of Jewish resistance written by Russian Jews, many of them women and children. Seventy percent of the songs were without musical accompaniment and all of them were in fragile condition.

Professor Shternshis photographed the songs and asked Psoy Korolenko to perform "musical archaeology"—to find or create tunes for them that were appropriate for the time, place, singers, and feeling of the lyrics. He succeeded so brilliantly that the resulting CD, produced by Six Degrees Records, was nominated for a Grammy in the category of Best World Music Album. ■

How Germany is rethinking security for its Jewish community following the Yom Kippur synagogue attack

Cnaan Liphshiz

(JTA) — In the aftermath of the shooting outside a synagogue in the German city of Halle, local authorities are rethinking their approach to securing the country's Jewish communities.

Only the building's heavy fortified doors prevented the gunman from entering the synagogue last week on Yom Kippur. Josef Schuster, the president of the Central Council of Jews in Germany, said it was "scandalous" that there were no police outside the Halle synagogue on Judaism's holiest day, when attendance by worshippers is at its highest.

Some German states are now moving to ensure that situation isn't repeated.

In the eastern state of Thuringia, authorities have agreed to post armed officers outside synagogues during services, Der Speigel reported. In Hesse, security will be provided at every synagogue and Jewish institution during Jewish holidays, a police spokesman said. And in Bavaria, synagogues were added as stops to routine police patrols following the attack.

At the federal level, Interior Minister Horst Seehofer said that police will "have to take a closer look at the gamers' scene," a reference to the shooter's frequent use of online gaming platforms. That comment sparked protests by German gamers, who fear an invasion of their privacy based on what they call a false generalization.

German Jewry's Values Initiative, a nonprofit that has positioned itself as a mainstream think tank for German Jewish communities, has proposed a seven-point plan for improving security for German Jews, including better real-time monitoring of video streaming platforms like the ones that the Halle gunman used to broadcast his assault for about 30 minutes.

After the synagogue attack, the group called for police protection of "all synagogues, Jewish and Israeli institutions in Germany," charging that police had "misjudged" the threat facing smaller communities like Halle. It also recommended improving police response time, noting that it took 16 minutes for officers to confront the shooter.

"It is time that Germany decides how it deals with hatred of Jews and other inhuman hatred forms," Elio Adler, the group's chairman, wrote. "The previous methods are clearly not enough."

German officials seem to agree. They were quick to condemn the Oct. 9 attack and reassure the Jewish community of their support. Chancellor Angela Merkel attended a vigil in Berlin that day and told Jews in Halle that her government was committed "to do everything possible so that you can live safely."

Merkel said the attack "shows us that this is not so simple and that we must do even more," though she did not specify what further action she envisaged.

Police protection is absent currently from many German synagogues and Jewish institutions, said Ophir Revach, director of the European Jewish Congress' Security and Crisis Center.

"In Germany's larger cities, Jewish communities get police protection and hire security firms additionally. But small communities like Halle have neither, leaving them exposed," he said.

In Frankfurt, the Jewish community of 6,600 members pays about $1.2 million a year for private security to supplement the protection provided by police, Leo Latasch, the head of security for the community, told Der Spiegel last week.

In Berlin, the Jewish community and the government split the cost of private security firms, according to Sergey Lagodinsky, a European Parliament lawmaker and a former Jewish community leader in the city.

The situation is radically different in neighboring France.

After the 2015 slaying of cartoonists at the Charlie Hebdo magazine and four Jews at a kosher store, the government launched Operation Sentinel, which deployed thousands of troops around Jewish community buildings and other potential targets. The French state bears nearly all the security costs for Jewish institutions, about $1.2 million per day.

But the effort has its drawbacks. Synagogues across France now resemble fortresses, and the heavy police presence has undermined a sense of normalcy among many French Jews, about 30,000 of whom have moved to Israel since 2013.

Sandra Sebbah, a Jewish mother of four from Pavillons-sous-Bois, a northeastern suburb of Paris, said the soldiers outside her children's Jewish school only amplify her anxiety about their safety. She encourages her children to "live somewhere else, like normal people and not like this, where I am afraid every minute they're not home — especially when they're at school," she told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

Revach said the French model can be tweaked to be made less restrictive.

"There's actually no need for soldiers with guns and police cars in front of synagogues," the European Jewish Congress's security expert said. "Technology, including surveillance cameras and good doors like the one in Halle, can be used smartly to reduce that sort of presence."

As in other European synagogues, the doors at the Halle synagogue were reinforced in recent years as part of a security initiative funded by the United Israel Appeal with support from donors including Mikhail Fridman, German Khan and Peter Aven. The attacker, identified as a far-right extremist

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A Jewish congresswoman gets flak in her swing district for taking on Trump

Ron Kampeas

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. (JTA) — Joe Deleon voted for Donald Trump for president in 2016 and Elaine Luria for Congress in 2018. But now that Luria is backing an impeachment inquiry, he's not sure he can support her again next year.

"If she continues this farce, she's going to get voted out," said Deleon, like Luria a U.S. Navy veteran. "And I like her. She's a good congresswoman."

Deleon made his comments in early October following a town hall at an African-American church in this resort town on the Virginia coast. At times contentious, the event signaled the potential cost for Luria and other Democrats supporting an impeachment inquiry.

Luria had initially opposed the inquiry. But in recent days, she and another seven Democrats with national security backgrounds have changed their minds. Three of them are Jewish: Luria, a former Navy commander; Elissa Slotkin of Michigan, a former CIA agent; and Max Rose of New York, an Army veteran.

In 2018, Luria ran a campaign in which she studiously avoided mention of Trump, who had won her Virginia district by 3 points in 2016, focusing instead on issues like veterans affairs and opposing offshore drilling.

It paid off. Her victory ended eight years of GOP representation and ousted another Navy veteran, Scott Taylor. The district includes Naval Station Norfolk, the largest naval base in the world, and the town hall was dotted with blue Navy baseball caps — among both supporters and opponents.

Slotkin ran a similar campaign in her southern Michigan district, which includes swaths of the Rust Belt and rural areas.

Trump's effort to pressure Ukraine to open an investigation of former Vice President Joe Biden led to the turnabout by the "badass caucus," the term Slotkin, Luria and three other congresswomen with national security backgrounds use to describe themselves. The group could not reconcile Trump's apparent use of military assistance to Ukraine as leverage to force an investigation with the oaths they had taken to uphold the Constitution. Republicans have already launched campaigns targeting Slotkin and Rose for backing the inquiry.

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Don't Forget the Side Dishes

Lonnie Sussman, special to the WJN

Whew! October was such a full month! Holidays from the first day to almost the last week. Thank goodness we don't have to think about menus or cooking for a while. Oh, wait! Thanksgiving. I almost forgot about Thanksgiving!

In all honesty, although we host family and friends for Thanksgiving and have for decades, I've never made a turkey. Turkeys are my husband's specialty. I'm a big believer in specializing, especially for things I don't have to do. He does the main dish and I and others add the "sides." What a word for some of the best parts of the big Thanksgiving feast. There are so many ways to make squash dishes or rice dishes or salads of all sorts that fit the eating habits of all the vegan, vegetarian and gluten free eaters at the table.

There is a Jewish connection to one of the foundational holidays of the United States of America. The story many learned in elementary school had to do with the Puritans celebrating their first harvest in 1621 with the local tribes. The Puritans were very familiar with the Torah and saw the holiday of Sukkot, a holiday celebrating both the harvest as well as the beneficence of G-d as the model of their thanksgiving feast. In 1863 President Lincoln declared this day as a national, not religious, holiday, celebrating the history and ideals of this nation.

Max and Eli Sussman

There are even rabbinic rulings on the appropriateness of marking this day for Jews. The key to the rulings has to do with the secular nature of the holiday. Even though some people have church services of thanksgiving or use songs and prayers as part of their rituals, the rabbis saw this day as secular. Rabbis Moshe Feinstein, Joseph B. and Moshe Soloveitchik ruled that the day is related to our citizenship and gratitude to this country for the gift of freedom of religious and other civil rights.

I wish one and all a happy Thanksgiving with whatever traditions you have. Maybe you eat turkey like more than 80% of our population or have a vegetarian alternative. Maybe you watch the football games and root for the Lions or another team, or just send some kids and adults outside to play catch. Just remember, make enough food so that Shabbat dinner can include many leftovers.

Lonnie's Easiest Salad

Serves 6. This is one of my go-to easiest lunches in the world but also part of a spread of yummy sides.

2 cans of canellini beans
¼ chopped red onion
Parsley
Salt and pepper
Balsamic vinegar

Drain and rinse the canned beans and place in bowl. Add the other ingredients to taste. Really, that's it.

Braised Butternut Squash

Serves 6-8, from Joan Nathan's *The New American Cooking*

I bought this cookbook some years ago primarily for this recipe. I was looking for ideas for side dishes that reflect the cultures of many new Americans. This one comes from a woman named Marla Gooriah, originally from the island of Mauritius.

1 Butternut Squash (about 3 pounds)
¼ cup olive oil
¾ cup diced sweet onion, like Vidalia
3 cloves chopped garlic
1 inch peeled and grated gingerroot
6 curry leaves (Indian food stores)
2 teaspoons black mustard seeds
1-3 teaspoons hot pepper flakes, or to taste
1 medium tomato, diced
1 cup water
3 Tablespoons sugar
Salt and pepper to taste and ½ cup chopped cilantro or parsley for serving

Peel and chop the squash into 1- inch cubes. Heat the olive oil in heavy Dutch oven or casserole over medium heat and saute' the onion, garlic, ginger, curry leaves and mustard seeds until the seeds start to pop. Then add the pepper flakes and continue until the onion is translucent, just a few more minutes.

Add the squash, tomato, water and salt and pepper to the pot. Bring to a boil then reduce the heat to a simmer, covered, for 15 minutes. Uncover, stir and mash the squash with a potato masher. Add the sugar and cook until the water evaporates and the squash is cooked through, another 5-10 minutes. Adjust the seasonings and serve sprinkled with cilantro or parsley.

Red Cabbage with Apples

Serves 12 (*The Gourmet Jewish Cook* by Judy Zeidler)

I have made this several times as I like having some traditional fall foods as part of the meal.

1 red cabbage
2/3 cup wine vinegar
2 Tablespoons sugar
2 teaspoons salt
2 Tablespoons unsalted margarine
2 apples, peeled, cored and thinly sliced
1 small onion, chopped
1 whole onion, peeled and pierced with 2 cloves
1 bay leaf, crushed
5 cups boiling water
3 Tablespoons dry red wine
3 Tablespoons red currant jelly

Wash the cabbage in cold water and cut into quarters. Then cut into shreds. Drop into a large bowl and sprinkle with the vinegar, sugar and salt and toss. In a large saucepan, melt the margarine and saute' the apples and chopped onion until the apples are lightly browned. Add the cabbage, the whole onion and the bay leaf. Stir thoroughly and pour in the boiling water, stirring occasionally. Bring to a boil then reduce the heat to a simmer. Cook covered for about an hour or until the cabbage is tender. Remove the onion and bay leaf and then stir in the wine and currant jelly and season to taste with salt and pepper. Serve hot.

Spinach Stew with Peanuts and Pumpkin Seeds

Serves 8 (*The New American Cooking*, by Joan Nathan)

1 cup pumpkin seeds
2 pounds spinach, washed
4 Tablespoons vegetable oil
2 onions, diced (about 2 cups)
2 medium tomatoes
2 Tablespoons tomato paste
2 cups chicken or vegetable stock
2 cups chunky peanut butter
Salt and pepper to taste
Serve with rice

Toast the pumpkin seeds by roasting in an oven until they are fragrant. Then grind in a food grinder and set aside.

Bring 6 cups of water to a boil in a large pan and blanch the spinach until it is soft, just a few minutes. Drain very well and then chop it fine, do not puree it. Return the pan to the stove and add the oil to heat on a medium flame. Add the onion and cook until it is translucent. Then add the tomato and the tomato paste and cook for a few minutes. Stir in the broth, peanut butter and salt and pepper. Bring to a boil, then reduce the heat and cook uncovered for a few minutes until the sauce thickens. Add the seeds to the stew and simmer for a few minutes, then stir in the spinach. Simmer very slowly, uncovered until very thick, maybe as much as 25 minutes. Taste and adjust seasonings. Serve over rice.

Roasted Winter Squash with Chestnuts

Serves 4-6 (*Best Cookbook Ever*, Max and Eli Sussman)

Yes, the authors are our nephews who are amazing chefs.

1 kabocha squash or butter cup squash
2 Tablespoons olive oil
Kosher salt
1 small head radicchio, cored and separated into leaves and torn into smaller pieces
1 small bunch lacinto kale, torn into smaller pieces and tough leaves and stems removed
1 cup frozen and cooked or canned chestnuts
3 ribs celery cut on the diagonal into ¼ inch slices
Inner leaves of one head of celery

Celery Vinaigrette

3 Tablespoons olive oil
2 Tablespoons cider vinegar
¼ cup flat leaf parsley
½ teaspoon celery salt

Pre-heat oven to 350 degrees and line a sheet ray with parchment paper. Cut the squash in half and scrape out the seeds and stringy membranes with a spoon. Brush the cut sides with the olive oil and sprinkle evenly with the salt. Roast, cut side down and sprinkle with about ¼ cup water. Bake until tender, about 45 minutes. Let the squash cool.

In a blender, combine the olive oil, vinegar, parsley, celery seeds and ½ teaspoon salt and process until it is a smooth puree. Refrigerate until ready to serve.

Remove the skin from the squash and cut the flesh into roughly 2 -inch chunks. Put in large serving bowl and add the radicchio, kale, chestnuts, celery ribs and celery leaves. Add the vinaigrette and toss gently. Check for seasonings. Serve immediately. ■

It's time for Mega Challah

Lonnie Sussman, special to the WJN

Have you ever tasted home-made challah? Have you ever baked your own loaves? Maybe you are the woman who has occasionally baked your own and know how easy it is and how proud you feel. Maybe you are the person who has made it often and your family loves it and thinks the store-bought challah is "just not right."

It doesn't matter if you are an absolute beginner or practically a professional because you have the opportunity to join 200 women this November for the second Ann Arbor Mega Challah Event. The first event was held in 2017 and was a huge success. Many women were sorry to miss the event and have asked for another so they could attend. Women who came to the first event had such a wonderful time that they also have requested to hold this again.

So, what is a Mega Challah Event and who is it for? Mega Challah Events have been held in cities all over the United States and all over the world. Women are invited to learn more about the importance of challah making as a mitzvah but also as a way to connect to tradition, and to others. Plus, it's a wonderful evening of laughter, music, inspiration and great smells.

This year's event will be held at Palmer Commons, 100 Washtenaw Avenue on November 6. Registration opened in September, but the organizers are committed to accommodating any Jewish woman who shows up. Look for our Facebook Page and tell your daughters, moms, sisters and friends. ■

THE TIME IS NOW

The recent increase in hate crimes and anti-Semitic rhetoric throughout the world has raised concern about individual safety and community security. In Greater Ann Arbor, our communal security committee is focused on a proactive approach toward strengthening our facilities, training our staff and volunteers, and developing response protocols to maximize safety, which will keep our community safe, prepared and welcoming.

We are creating a safer community which will take collaboration and support. Please join this effort with a supplemental gift to the Greater Ann Arbor Community Security Campaign.

Pledge today. Our security depends on it.
www.jewishannarbor.org/security-campaign

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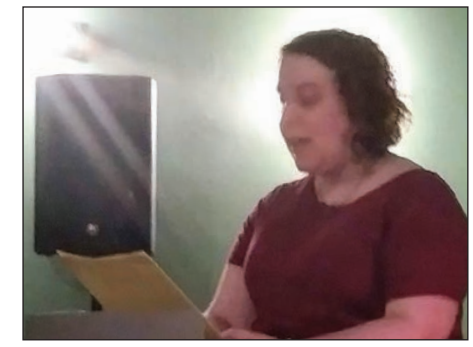
JYP Shabbat in Ypsilanti

Rachael Dawson-Baglien, special to the WJN

On October 11, over 40 young adults from Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti, and the metropolitan Detroit area traveled to the Dreamland Theater for Jewish Young Professionals' first Shabbat program held in Ypsilanti. Jewish Young Professionals, a program of the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor, holds Shabbat programs on the second Friday of each month, an effort spearheaded by community member Joelle Abramowitz. Programs take place throughout Washtenaw County and have varied from a wine tasting Shabbat to potluck dinners and also include programming outside of Shabbat such as a baking group and table at the upcoming Mega Challah Bake. The Ypsilanti Shabbat, also supported by funds from Moishe House Without Walls, was planned by local community members Rachael Dawson-Baglien, Shoshanna Wechter, and Emily Oppenlander and included a full Kabbalat Shabbat, Ma'ariv(evening prayers), d'var Torah, and Mediterranean dinner. The Dreamland Theater is a puppet theater and performance space in downtown Ypsilanti.

This was a meaningful event for many reasons aside from being an inaugural event in Ypsilanti for JYP. Kabbalat Shabbat was led by Shoshanna Wechter who, while passionate about Shabbat, had not yet had the chance to lead Kabbalat Shabbat by herself. When asked about the experience, Shoshanna said, "Kabbalat Shabbat has really become the rhythm of my week. After so many lovely Friday nights at queer-forward independent minyanim, Conservative Minyan at Michigan Hillel, and feminist Shabbatons, to be able to lead Kabbalat Shabbat for the first time, among my friends no less, was really special for me. I'm so thankful to the Federation for giving us this opportunity to make our Shabbat dreams come true!"



Rachael Dawson-Baglien

Rachael Dawson-Baglien gave a d'var Torah for the first time since her Bat Mitzvah. Rachael spoke about Parshat Ha'Atzinu and the power of songs and poetry to resonate with people. Ma'ariv was led beautifully by Joelle Abramowitz, who continued the theme of music by infusing the Ma'ariv prayers with the tunes of Matishyahu, Bob Marley, and "Save tonight" by Eagle-Eye Cherry. The attendance at this event was impressive and will hopefully result in more programming taking place in Ypsilanti and the surrounding areas in the future.

For more information about Jewish Young Professionals and upcoming programs, contact Jessica Weil, Outreach and Program Coordinator for the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor, at 734-585-5405 or jessica@jewishannarbor.org. ■

Women's Philanthropy brunch with Wendy Abrams

Sharyn J. Gallatin, Esq, special to the WJN

On Sunday, October 6, the Women's Philanthropy group of the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor kicked off the year with a brunch for Lion of Judah and Pomegranate donors at the home of Judy Cohen. The brunch featured Wendy Abrams, immediate past chair of the Jewish Federations of North America's National Women's Philanthropy group. Ms. Abrams spoke on Women's Philanthropy in the Twenty-first century, about the importance of women acting as a collective, and discussed the need for and reasons why women should endow their gifts.

She began the event with an ice breaker on Jewish values which gave each woman a chance to explain what one selected value meant to her. Some of the examples of values discussed were compassion, which one woman said perfectly described Ann Arbor and others spoke about commitment and passion. Those who spoke told about their personal connections to the Federation, why they give of their time and money and how their mothers and grandmothers set an example for them to follow, paving the way for their involvement. Finally, Ms. Abrams described her various overseas experiences, including a trip to the Ukraine where she visited a camp for those affected by the war there, some who were experiencing a Jewish summer camp for the very first time. "Your dollars fund experiences like these," Ms. Abrams said. She also discussed other impacts of our gifts, both locally and overseas and emphasized the importance of a woman's gift. "As women, we are a powerful force," she said.

Wendy Abrams

The brunch, attended by 20 Lion of Judah and Pomegranate donors, was a wonderful way to kick off the Women's Philanthropy year. Joyce Gerber, co-chair of Federation's Women's Philanthropy said, "it was a super event and the energy in the room was obvious. It was great to see so many of our Lions and Poms there!" Other programming planned for the year includes a wine and cheese event in January, a food sustainability event in the Spring and a Rosh Chodesh dinner in May or June. All of these events tie into this year's theme of women and food.

The minimum gift to become a Pomegranate donor is $1800, and the minimum gift to become a Lion of Judah is $5000 to the Federation's Annual Women's Campaign. To learn more or to make a gift to the Women's Annual Campaign, please contact Sharyn J. Gallatin, Esq., the Federation's Chief Development Officer, at 734-773-3533 or at sharyn@jewishannarbor.org. ■

Save the Date for Federation Event with Dana Nessel

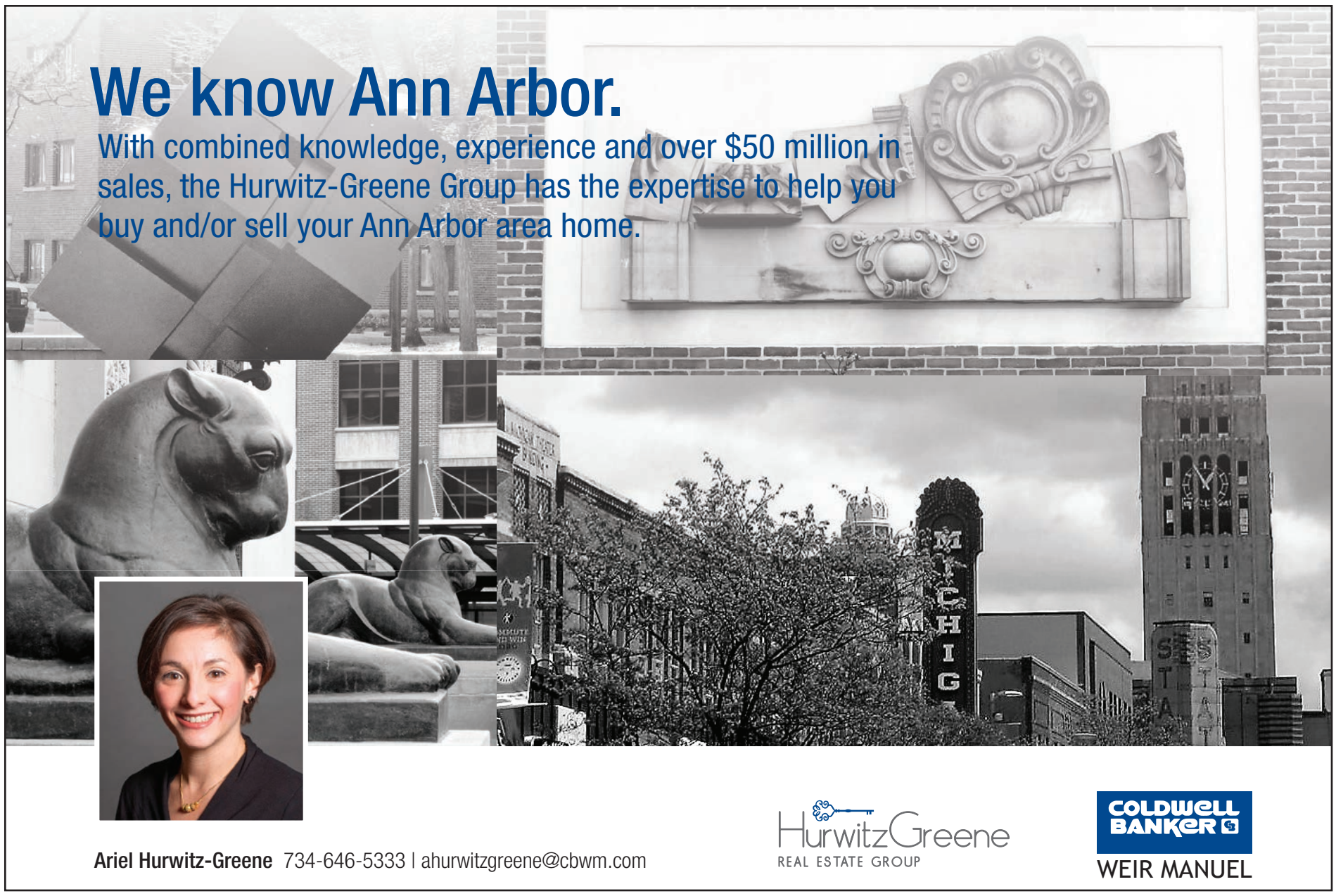
Sharyn J. Gallatin, Esq., special to the WJN

The Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor is pleased to announce that on Wednesday, January 22, 2020 Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel with be the featured speaker at

Dana Nessel

the second Cardozo Society event of the year. The event, co-sponsored by the Jewish Community Relations Committee (JCRC), will be an excellent forum for our community to hear from Ms. Nessel regarding some of the initiatives that she is addressing as our State's Attorney General. The program is open to the public and will be held at the Jewish Community Center.

The goal of the Federation's Cardozo Society is to broaden the participation of the legal profession in the activities of the Federation and the greater Jewish Ann Arbor community as a whole. Please visit www.jewishannarbor.org after November 15 for further details. ■



ANN ARBOR DISTRICT LIBRARY
EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

ANN ARBOR SYNTH EXPO

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9 • 12-4:00PM
DOWNTOWN LIBRARY

Join us for a celebration and exploration of all things synth at the Ann Arbor Synth Expo! Watch performers, and enjoy hands-on activities for the whole family! Try out various synths including new gear from AADL's Music Tools collection and talk to vendors, artists, and makers about how to construct your own sonic creations!

FIFTH AVENUE PRESS BOOK RELEASE RECEPTION: AADL'S LOCAL PUBLISHING IMPRINT

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The Ann Arbor District Library is pleased to announce the Fall 2019 releases from our Fifth Avenue Press imprint. Join us for readings and light refreshments!

FOR ADULTS:
The Elements: a love letter to all things everywhere
author and artist
Hannah Burr

All That We Encounter
Bethany Grey

Breaking Through
Johnny Thompson

Shape Notes
Judy Patterson Wenzel

FOR TEENS:
Intersections
Shanelle O. Boluyt

FOR CHILDREN:
The Dragon Library
author James B. Barbatano
with illustrations by
Douglas Bosley

Modern Crab Adventures: Fantastic Planet
Douglas Bosley

Over In Motown
author Debbie Taylor
with illustrations by
Keisha Morris

The Planet We Live On
Shanda Trent

This event includes a signing with books for sale.
For information about Fifth Avenue Press visit fifthavenue.press.

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT AADL.ORG

Is hummus a meal?

Sarah Okin, co-owner of York Food + Drink, special to the WJN

To the average Michigander, it's hard to imagine a simple, healthy, hearty, well-balanced, and satisfying meal – on top of pita bread. But in the Middle East, hummus is not a condiment. It's the main event.

York Food + Drink (formerly Morgan & York) is excited to host Chef Michael Savaldi as he launches his latest concept: a hummus pop-up restaurant (*chummusiyah*). Former head hummus chef at Hummus Badra (Rehovot, Israel), Chef Michael is a highly regarded chef of authentic Israeli cuisine.

Many Ann Arborites, well-traveled (to Israel) and well versed in Israeli cuisine and culture, will be excited to learn that Chef Michael is a sabra, born and raised on Kibbutz Gezer. The Israeli *chummusiya* somewhat mirrors the dining room of a Kibbutz: bustling, noisy, lively, social. Chef Michael, a true kibbutznik, took time after completing his IDF service to travel internationally. As he sampled dishes of South and Central America and Europe, his appreciation for the simplicity of hummus, combined with its health benefits and low environmental impact led him to Hummus Badra.

"York is a perfect host for my upcoming project," says Chef Michael. "The neighborhood oasis that this establishment has created will mingle with the intentions of my cooking and create a special experience for guests. I'm calling the popup "Hummus Sababa" – to capture the laid back, positive vibe that we will be creating."

Tommy York, proprietor of York Food + Drink, shared that the team is "really excited to add Hummus Sababa to the York family! We aim to offer unique epicurean experiences to guests. The bright flavors of Israeli cuisine are a delight; we're so proud to be hosting this popup! We're planning to launch a specialty cocktail to compliment the dishes offered by Hummus Sababa."

Hummus Sababa will be open between November 6 and November 20 for lunch Monday through Saturday from 11a.m.until the Hummus in gone; and Monday through Saturday from 6p.m. until the Hummus is gone. Contact: hummusannarbor@gmail.com ■

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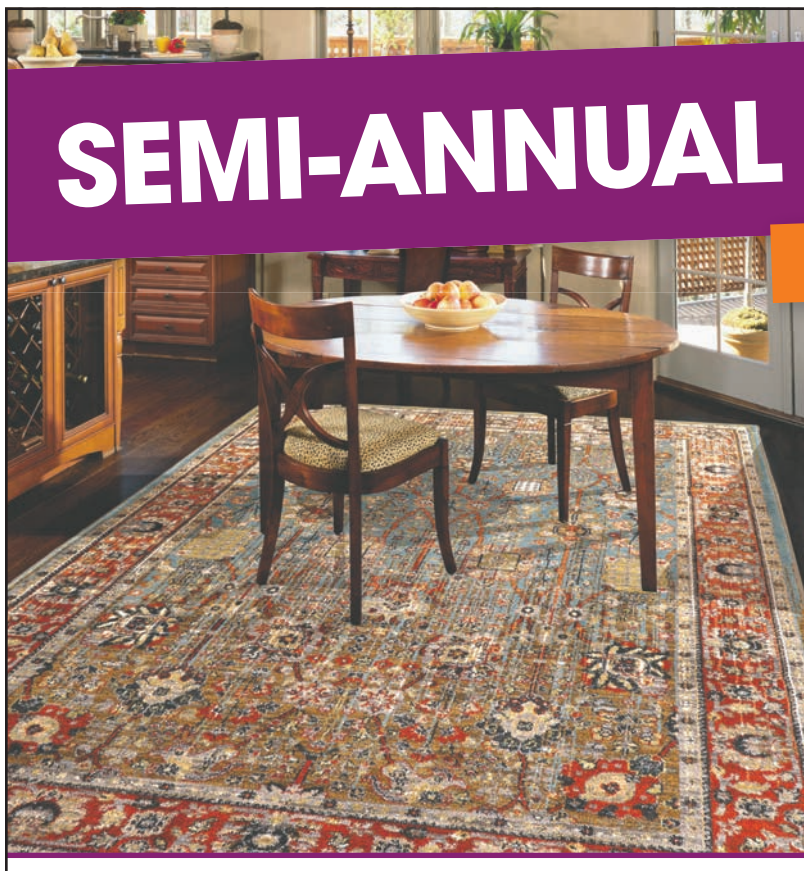

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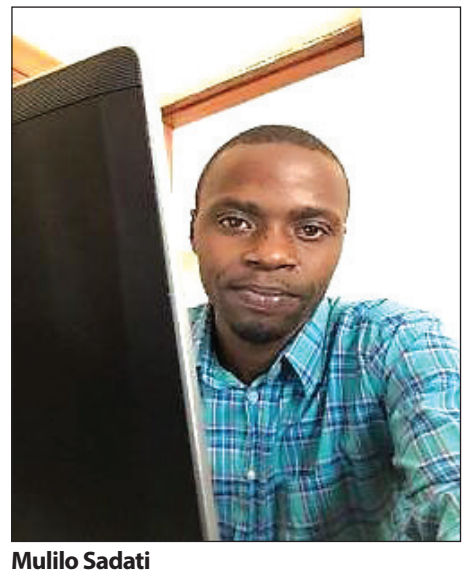
Update on the Computer Programs in Uganda

By Lonnie Sussman

In January of 2019, I went on an amazing trip to Uganda which ended with an inspirational Shabbat with the Abayudaya (Jews of Uganda) of Nabagoya Hills. Part of that visit included a visit to the Hadassah Primary School in the village, and another school in a second village with the name Tikkun Olam. What makes these schools so unique is their curriculum includes secular and Jewish studies and the student body includes Jewish, Muslim and Christian children. The Muslim and Christian children are not required to learn the Jewish subjects but the mere fact that the schools include this level of diversity is unique in Eastern Africa. The Washtenaw Jewish News published an article in the February 2019 issue describing the schools and the special computer programs available in them.

It is now less than a year later and much has changed and improved for these schools' computer programs. The single most critical improvement is the addition of a device called a Raspberry Pi. This small device, about the size of a credit card, functions as a computer but reduces the need for the Internet. It functions as a "hot spot" for other devices such as smart phones, ipads, tablets, etc. It is now being used with a chip called a Rachel Pi (Remote Area Computer), that runs on the Raspberry Pi. The Rachel Pi is full of educational content from teaching curriculums, The Khan Academy materials, Wikipedia, literature, reference books and textbooks. In short, these tools allow the schools to use fairly inexpensive materials and have lowered the need for electricity while raising the access to education in remote and poor areas.



Mulilo Sadati

The two schools have only a few Raspberry Pi devices. The devices have a limited range and some of the classrooms are too far from the source to use the system to access material. Mulilo Sadati, a young man from Nabagoya Hills, is the driving force behind the efforts to make computers and the content of material from both the entire world and from the local educational system, available to many more children.

Through research and experience, Sadati has written a training manual to help small villages. There have been some international efforts to supply poor areas with equipment but, as Sadati says, "you can't use a plane dropping laptops" without the training and support for teachers. His goals are threefold: teach the teachers computer literacy, teach them how to align their available curriculum with their local needs, and help the teachers access content for their classrooms. He has learned that the critical step of training teachers is essential to making the entire endeavor work.

Sadati is now in the process of developing a Ugandan chip for use with the Raspberry Pi that will access the Ugandan national education curriculum and materials as well as fiction and non-fiction books in many of the local languages. Other chips will allow updating of new editions of books. He and his team will be able to customize the curriculum specifically for Jewish students as well as other religious or ethnic groups.

In a Skype call with Sadati, I asked him for a bottom line. What would he actually need to advance the programs he has in mind for both the Hadassah Primary and the Tikkun Olam schools? He replied that they need laptops supported by Windows 10, tablets, additional Raspberry Pi devices and Rachel Pi devices. While it is possible for these items to be brought to Uganda by groups visiting the Abayudaya, it is impractical to mail them to Uganda. The simplest solution is to have the money to buy these devices locally. The bottom line turned out to be approximately $20, 000 dollars. It seems like an obtainable goal. The easiest way to help is to donate to Kulanu.org. and specify the Computer lab equipment program at Haddasah Primary School and Tikkun Olam School. While you are on the website check out the October 2019 newsletter for further news and inspiration about Jewish communities around the world. ■

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Anthony Minghella's vividly cinematic staging returns to cinemas, featuring soprano Hui He in the devastating title role.

NOVEMBER 23

PHILIP GLASS
AKHNATEN
Countertenor Anthony Roth Costanzo headlines American composer Philip Glass's transcendent contemporary creation, with Karen Kamensek conducting.

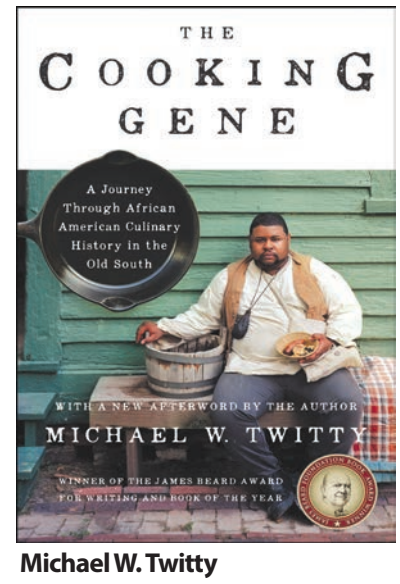
The Cooking Gene, by Michael Twitty

Reviewed by Eeta Gershow

For the last several months I have been volunteering in the Temple Beth Emeth library where I often get first dibs on new books. A most surprising find was *The Cooking Gene: a Journey Through African American Culinary History in the Old South* by Michael W. Twitty. Mr. Twitty describes himself as a culinary historian, food writer, independent scholar and historical interpreter. He also teaches Judaic studies in the Washington, DC area. The book is part memoir, part cookbook and part Southern history. Twitty describes the importance of food in Southern culture, especially in the African American community from the time of slavery to the present. He also describes his personal history as a '3-time minority'– African American, gay, and Jewish.

Twitty became interested in Judaism at age 6 and converted at 20. Most chapters is this book, his first, end with a recipe, often a 'mash-up' of Southern and traditional Jewish foods. Brisket with West African spices sounds delicious. Roast chicken brined with sorghum roasted in cabbage leaves seems to me a little more challenging. He has cooked at many multi-cultural events, marrying foods of the many cultures he claims. Of course, there is an overlap in many of the foods that all the 'bubbes' provided for their families of any culture.

Twitty focuses on Southern history from a black perspective and discusses how food sustained African Americans, first as slaves, and then as freed citizens of the South. From the book jacket, "As he takes us through his ancestral culinary history, Twitty suggests healing may come from...the power of food to bring the kin of the enslaved and their former slaveholders to the table."



Michael W. Twitty

In order to understand his ancestral influences, Twitty had his DNA tested and evaluated and identified the African homelands of his ancestors. He traced his 28% white ancestry to his fifth great-grandfather in North Carolina in Revolutionary War times. His visits to descendants is fascinating, since not all were comfortable acknowledging a black branch of the family.

Approximately 70% of his DNA is from West Africa, specifically Ghana, Congo-Cameroon, Nigeria, Senegal and Benin/Togo. He writes, "Before he can get others to respect his past, the African in the Diaspora must first discover his authentic heritage.... Take me to Senegal and Gambia where *ataaya* (green tea)....relates to my Virginia grandmother's mint tea." In *The Cooking Gene*, Twitty delves into each African country's food tradition and how it was brought to this country by slaves and integrated into Southern cooking. "In Nigeria, my cousins will feed me *akara*, fried black eyed peas and *ofe okwuruthe,* mama of gumbo. He also sampled Senegalese rice, greens in Sierra Leone and Benin and yams in Ghana. By the time I finished reading, I was ready to march into my kitchen and whip up a batch of the ultimate African/Southern/Jewish snack: Black-eyed pea hummus! Thank you, Michael Twitty.

Mr. Twitty is the creator of 'Afroculinaria,' the first blog dedicated to African American historic foodways and their legacies. He is a TED fellow and speaker. He has appeared on NPR's The Splendid Table and is the first Revolutionary in Residence at Colonial Williamsburg. Since its publication in 2017, the James Beard Foundation has awarded *The Cooking Gene* Book of the Year and Best Writing awards. It has recently been released in paperback by Amistad Press.

Michael Twitty will be he will be speaking and doing a demonstration at the Eastern Michigan University Student Center Ballroom on January 15, 2020 at 7:00 p.m, Sponsored by the Eastern Michigan University Center for Jewish Studies and Hillel at EMU. ■

Struck

Reviewed by Lois Godel

The story

Ordinarily Douglas was the one who drove the couple's daughter to school in the morning. But the day of the accident, Susan had taken her so that he could participate in a conference call. When the phone rang, he heard his 12-year-old daughter sobbing that there had been an accident. "Are you all right?" "Yes." "Is Mommy?" "I don't know…I

Douglas and Susan Segal

don't think so," she said, "come quick."

A bus had hit their car, head-on.

Douglas franticly attempted to reach his wife and daughter. Traffic was being rerouted and bystanders were blocked from getting too close. When he finally got there, his first impression of the demolished car was that no one could've survived that, even though his daughter had. The automobile's windshield was shattered. There was no front end and no door on the driver's side. Susan had to be cut out of what was left of the car.

Struck: A Husband's Memoir of Trauma and Triumph (2018) by Douglas Segal, is a well-written memoir of how he coped with his wife's horrific near-fatal accident, maintaining his own equilibrium while advocating for her and caring for their two adolescent children. Beginning with his initial struggle with why it had happened, wondering if God or even his own thoughts had anything to do with it, then finding and focusing on thoughts that sustained him. It is his story of his wife's extraordinary recovery from injuries almost no one expected her to survive. Finally, although perhaps unstated, this book is about humility and grace.

The accident had broken nearly every bone in Susan's body, but she was initially conscious, a good sign. Then they discovered bleeding in her crushed pelvis and in her brain. Her neck was broken. There were no injuries to internal organs, but if the bleeding in her pelvis couldn't be stopped, she would die.

Susan spent three weeks in the ICU and almost three months in the hospital. Her prognosis was uncertain; her medical situation constantly shifting. Scheduled surgeries were postponed because one or another developing problem needed to be addressed first. Susan was unable to swallow for weeks. She suffered numerous bouts of pneumonia.

Additionally, she didn't always understand what was happening or the limitations of her body. She demanded diet Coke. She wanted to go home. Later she suffered hallucinations –something called ICU psychosis.

For her husband, it was a never-ending roller coaster ride of expectations followed by dashed expectations. Douglas sought to simply be present. "So we stay focused on what we can do: care, hope, pray, talk, laugh, share, love."

In large measure, because the family was well-connected within their community and because the accident happened around the corner from their temple and was immediately televised, friends and family responded with words, with meals sent and with offers to help with their children.

Douglas talks of "an enormous circle of support…the empathy and energy sent." And he wonders, "Has this collective light and love lifted Susan's pain, diffusing it and allowing it to be absorbed among us?"

He came to believe that "It is this love, support, compassion and prayer that became Susan's lifeblood, transferred through some cosmic transfusion."

In the waiting room of the ICU, the author observes others, waiting for news of their loved ones. He realizes that every person in hospital waiting rooms and outside of them, has something difficult going on in their lives. He reflects on his and his family's amazing support circle, knowing many people who, for various reasons, perhaps an accident where they were at fault or a condition that may be considered shameful such as alcoholism or mental illness, have little or no support.

The road to Petra

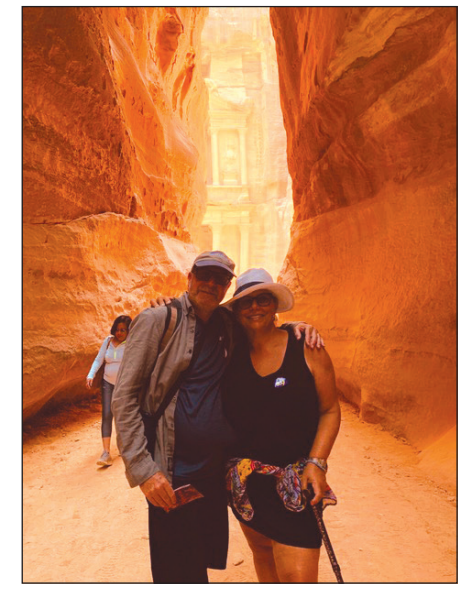
The road to Petra is rough, full of dust and loose stones. Late in September, while walking there, I noticed an attractive blonde woman, who I guessed to be in her fifties, making her way with a cane. We exchanged smiles and pleasantries about the wondrous place we were walking through. I asked her if she was waiting for knee replacement surgery.

"No. I got hit by a bus," she said.

"What?"

"Yes," she laughed. "Head-on. Seven years ago. I broke almost everything. I'm so happy to be here in Petra and on this amazing trip. All the walking and steps were a concern for me before coming but being able to do it was a personal goal that I was working towards, and now here I am!"

I find out: Her name is Susan Segal. She



is an actress who has also taught parenting classes. She has two children, both in college, and a husband, Douglas, who shared this trip with her. They live in Los Angeles. Douglas is a writer and producer for television and movies. He wrote a memoir about Susan's accident and recovery and of his struggle to deal with the unthinkable.

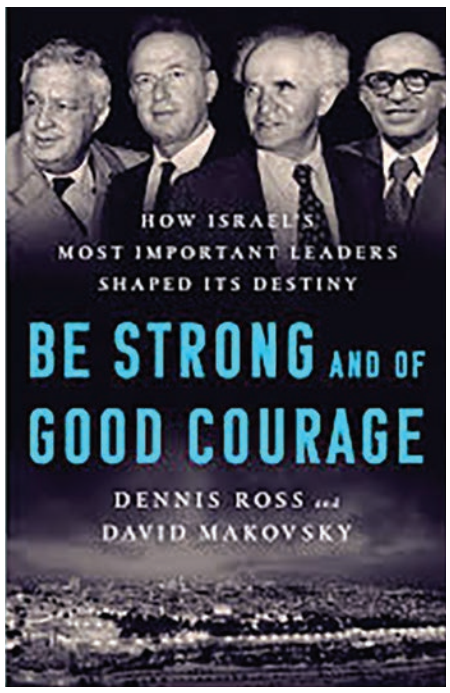
The book evolved from Douglas's posts to family and friends, primarily about Susan's condition and how he and the children were doing. In addition to the information he was willing to share at the time, he includes sections of thoughts he initially kept to himself. Entitled "The Unposted," these sections describe his attempts to grapple with life as it has changed for him and his family.

The author's honesty and willingness to connect shines through his memoir. Never preachy or formulaic, he speaks his heart. ■

Dennis Ross visits U-M

Kelsey Robinette Keeves, special to the WJN

As part of the Frankel Speaker Series, which features events geared toward a student audience, the Jean & Samuel Frankel Center for Judaic Studies is bringing American diplomat and author Dennis Ross to the University of Michigan campus to speak about his new book, *Be Strong and of Good Courage: How Israel's Most Important Leaders Shaped its Destiny*. The event will be held in Rackham Amphitheatre on the evening of November 6.



Ross, currently counselor and William Davidson Distinguished Fellow at the Washington Institute, was one of the architects of American policy in Israel for presidents Bill Clinton and Barack Obama. He has also served as Director of Policy Planning under President George H. W. Bush and the special Middle East coordinator under President Bill Clinton. During the Reagan administration, Ross served as director of Near East and South Asian affairs on the National Security Council staff and deputy director of the Pentagon's Office of Net Assessment. He was awarded the Presidential Medal for Distinguished Federal Civilian Service by President Clinton, and Secretaries of State James Baker and Madeleine Albright presented him with the State Department's highest award.

Throughout his career, Ross created close connections with five Israeli prime ministers: Yitzhak Rabin, Shimon Peres, Ehud Barak, Ariel Sharon, and Benjamin Netanyahu. His most recent book, which he will be discussing, celebrates the early leaders of Israel and assesses how their leadership secured a future for the nation. It also argues that the current trajectory of the country is transforming it from a Jewish democratic state to a binational Arab-Jewish state. The book was coauthored by David Makovsky, the Ziegler Distinguished Fellow at the Washington Institute and director of the Project on Arab-Israel Relations. Ross and Makovsky describe how past prime ministers could be an example for future leadership and share new ideas on how to implement policies that could, over time, lead to peaceful separation.

Henry Kissinger calls the book "a powerful statement on the style and principles of leadership that are critical for shaping the Middle East peace process" and Hillary Rodham Clinton wrote "for those of us who care deeply about Israel and the US-Israel relationship, Ross and Makovsky have done a real service. As Israel's leaders face a fateful choice about the future of the state and preserving its character, they tell the story of Ben-Gurion, Begin, Rabin, and Sharon. It is a story that can provide guidance for today's leaders in Israel and for all of us on the meaning of leadership."

Ross' other publications have explored different aspects of the peace process, the former Soviet Union, arms control, and the greater Middle East. His 2004 book, *The Missing Peace: The Inside Story of the Fight for Middle East Peace,* was called "a major contribution to the diplomatic history of the 20th century" by *Foreign Affairs,* and his 2015 *Doomed to Succeed: The U.S.-Israel Relationship from Truman to Obama* was awarded the 2015 National Jewish Book Award for history. ■

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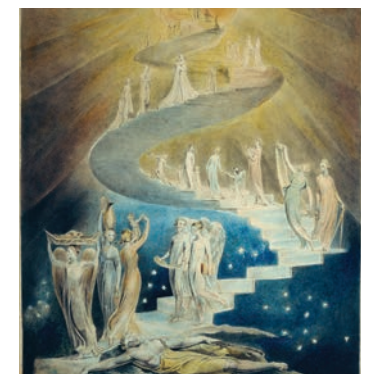
Frankel Events
November 2019

Ghetto: The History of a Word
Nov. 5, 4:00 PM
Dan Schwartz, George Washington University
Room 2022, 202 S. Thayer St.

Frankel Speaker Series: Be Strong and of Good Courage: How Israel's Most Important Leaders Shaped Its Destiny
Nov. 6, 7:00 PM
Dennis Ross, Diplomat and Author
Rackham Amphitheater, 915 E. Washtington St.



Jews, Genetics and the Search for Lost Ancestors
Nov. 12, 4:00 PM
Steve Weitzman, University of Pennsylvania
Room 2022, 202 S. Thayer St.

Padnos Lecture: The Yiddish Columbus: Critical Counter-History and the Remapping of American Jewish Literature
Nov. 18, 4:00 PM
Rachel Rubinstein, Hampshire College
Room 2022, 202 S. Thayer St.

M.Starowieyska D. Golik / Polin Museum of The History Of Polish Jews

Yiddish in Poland: Past, Present, and Future
Nov. 19, 4:00 PM
Frankel Institute Fellows: Karolina Szymaniakl Guest Scholars: Genevieve Zubrzycki, Benjamin Paloff
Room 2022, 202 S. Thayer St.

All events are free and open to the public. If you have a disability that requires a reasonable accommodation, please call at least two weeks prior to the event.

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JCC 35th Anniversary Event Truly a Gala

Clara Silver, special to the WJN

Founder and long-serving community leader, Chuck Newman, emceed a powerful program of speakers before a capacity crowd of 182 during dinner at the 35th Anniversary Archive and Founders Gala, held at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor on Tuesday, September 24. Seventeen of the 40 original founders, 34 of whom are still living, attended along with two former executive directors. In addition, Bob Kimsal, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of the JCC Association of North America, represented the international umbrella organization of which the Ann Arbor JCC is a member.

Representatives of nearly every Ann Arbor area Jewish organization and synagogue, as well as special guest, Ann Arbor Mayor Christopher Taylor, who presented a special proclamation, also joined the festivities giving the event a strong feeling of community. Founders were defined as those in the "breakfast club," the small group led by Chuck and Sharon Newman who initiated the formation of the Ann Arbor JCC, as well as members of the interim board of directors, the interim executive director, members of the first board of directors, and the first executive director.

Chuck and Sharon Newman

Fran and Irwin Martin

Jesse Bernstein, Judy and Mort Plotnick

Roberta Tankanow and Elaine Margolis

ARTS AROUND TOWN

The Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor presents the 32nd Arts Around Town: Jewish Book and Arts Festival November 10, 2019 – December 17, 2019

JEWISH BOOK&ARTS FESTIVAL 2019

11/10 • 11 am @ the J | Bagels, Schmear, and Parenting with Two Authors | $12 or $10 for J Members **|** $5 Childcare Fee per family (pre-registration required)
- *Look How Happy I'm Making You: Stories by Polly Rosenwaike*
- *Act Natural: A Cultural History of Misadventures in Parenting* by Jenny Traig, Ph.D.

11/21 • 7 pm @ the J | ***A Rosenberg by Any Other Name: A History of Jewish Name Changing in America*** **by Kirsten Fermaglich | Author Talk |** $8 or $6 for J Members

11/24 • 10 am @ the J | Reimagining Judaism in Israel: Ethno-Nationalism and the Privatization of Tradition with Tomer Persico, Ph.D. | Presentation and Brunch | Free, RSVP Requested **|** *Sponsored by the Israel Center @ the J with support from the D. Dan and Betty Kahn Foundation* **|** *Presented in partnership with the Shalom Hartman Institute of North America*

11/24 • 7pm @ Beth Israel Congregation | "A Shared Struggle: Democratic Values in Israel and America" with Naomi Chazan, Former Knesset Member | Free **|** *Sponsored by the New Israel Fund. Co-sponsored by the Israel Center @ the J*

11/25 • 5:45-7 pm @ the J | Turkey-less Thanksgiving/Family Event | $7 per person over 2 years old **|** *Co-sponsored by PJ Library*

12/5 • 7 pm @ the J | Jazz at the J with Nicole New and Cliff Monear/Performance | $12 or $10 for J Members

12/8 • 4-6 pm @ Amster Gallery @ the J | Intriguing People on Our Planet, photography exhibition by Nancy Margolis/Gallery Reception | Free

12/17 • 5:45-7 pm @ the J | Chanukah Sing-a-Long/Family Event **|** $5 per person over 2 years old **|** *Co-sponsored by Ann Arbor JCC Early Childhood Center*

All events at 2935 Birch Hollow Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48108. Visit book.jccannarbor.org for more information and registration.

SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE. Contact Noemi Herzig, noemiherzig@jccannarbor.org

Mike Levine

Bob Kimsal and David Stone

The evening began with the archive exhibition opening and the launch of the newly published *History of the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor*. Both the archive exhibition and the book were created by Fran Martin, also in attendance at the Gala. The archive filled all three lounges, named for founders Chuck and Sharon Newman, Michael and Patricia Levine, and Charles and Rita Gelman. Martin spent nearly two years curating the archive from a variety of sources and materials, including former executive directors Leslie Bash, who served on the steering and event committees, and Nancy Margolis.

After a cocktail hour and the exhibition opening, the event moved into the gymnasium, which was completely transformed into a ballroom venue with special lighting and decor, for dinner, which was not only kosher, but accommodating of a variety of dietary choices. Founder Rita Gelman led the *motzi*. Speakers included Executive Director David Stone, founders Chuck Newman and Michael Levine, Fran Martin, Mayor Taylor, Immediate Past President and Gala Chairperson Prue Rosenthal, and current President Jesse Bernstein.

Founder Michael Levine's speaking about his involvement was a highlight of the evening. He noted that at the time, 1984, the Jewish community was moving away from Israel as a convening issue, as Israel was becoming less dependent on American funds at the time, and the creation of the Ann Arbor JCC became a renewed local convening point. Levine shared that he was uncertain about the potential for success of the JCC, but that after the first Apples and Honey, with hundreds of community members in attendance, his uncertainty changed to confidence. He received a standing ovation both for his remarks as well as recognition of his many decades of significant financial support of the community.

The proceeds of the Gala, nearing the $100,000 mark, have been designated to retire the organization's mortgage and provide support for its growing cultural arts and education programming. The Gala was the brainchild of Chuck Newman, who continues to be involved with the ongoing evolution of the Ann Arbor JCC, and who brought Michael Levine, and many others, together 35 years ago. Many founders continue to be active leaders, funders, and supporters of the Ann Arbor JCC. The Gala was supported by two committees populated by community members Prue Rosenthal, Sue Adler, Harriet Bakalar, Leslie Bash, Rita Gelman, Elaine Margolis, Chuck Newman, Alyse Tankanow, Roberta Tankanow and staffed by Executive Director, David Stone, Director of Operations, Clara Silver, and Special Projects Manager, Yael Silver. For more information about the Ann Arbor JCC or to explore membership, visit jccannarbor.org or call (734) 971-0990. ■

Finding Peace From Turbulence

Rabbi Aharon Goldstein, special to the WJN

On November 2 we will be reading the Torah portion of Noach. Usually the name of the weekly Torah portion expresses the contents of that portion. Here, the name of the portion and its contents seem to be contradicting each other. This week's portion deals with mostly depressing situations – the drowning of the whole world in the great flood and the punishment of the rebels against God at the Tower of Babel. These are all negative events, nevertheless they all fall under the title of the weekly parsha – Noach.

Rabbi Aharon Goldstein

The word Noach is not only the name of the person, it also has its own meaning. It derives from the word "*menucha*" which means rest. So how is it that the name of the portion is a good thing – rest and tranquility – but the content of the portion is full of disturbing, hardly restful, events?

Furthermore, we find in Isaiah, when speaking of the Great Flood, it is referred to as Mei Noach, "the waters of Noach" or, "the waters of tranquility." This contains an echo of the previous question. Why juxtapose the destructive waters of the Great Flood with the peaceful image of Noach's name? The waters of the Flood destroyed everything that existed on Earth and changed the face and form of the world. How can this be associated with the peacefulness and tranquility of the name Noach?

We must conclude that since there is a definite explicit incongruity between the title and the content of the portion on the superficial level, there must be a consistent connection between the two at a deeper level. We can see that the world was cleansed by the Flood and re-formed to a level of goodness greater than before. This is the connection to peacefulness and tranquility. After the challenges of the Flood and the Tower of Babel the world was changed for the better. As the Midrash states: When Noach left the Ark and he looked at the world, he saw a new world. A world that was elevated and cleansed to the extent that God made a covenant with the world that because of the new, higher elevation He will not ever have the reason to bring another flood. This is a better interpretation of the term, Mei Noach – waters of peace. The Great Flood through the process of creative destruction brought the world to a more stable, peaceful state than previously.

What kind of lesson can we learn from this? This helps explain the inner meaning when a person is faced with challenges and difficulties. We all stumble over challenges in life. On the surface these challenges appear to be negative – something we don't want to have. But the truth is that when we overcome our challenges it brings out a better quality in us that we didn't have before the experience. Because of overcoming these challenges we become stronger, which brings out the previously hidden inner sparks of holiness. This strength gives us the ability to convert the apparently negative into something positive which helps in our service to God.

Furthermore, this Torah reading is done, specifically, right after the High Holy Days. The reading of Noach comes after the month of Tishrei which is a month imbued with holiness. Coming out of this month of being occupied with holiness and transitioning back to the mundane world and its challenges can be difficult.

The deeper meaning of the reading of Noach can help guide and comfort us in this journey. Some may feel overwhelmed with these challenges. We can take the lesson of the Flood as a guide. The Flood was a huge challenge to the world. But what did it ultimately do? It made the world a better place. So we can extrapolate the Torah lesson to our own lives. Our challenges should not bring us down but, rather, should help us grow and progress. The lesson of Noach will give us the strength to overcome the shock of returning to the "regular" world from our previous month of holiness. One of the messages we can take from parsha Noach is to be encouraged and unafraid of the different challenges and obstacles in life – the big, turbulent waters as it were. We can take these seemingly negative challenges and turn them into "waters of Noach" – a peaceful, positive result.

How do we get the strength to overcome those challenges? Just as God told Noach how to be protected from the turbulent waters that were coming, we should follow the same solution. God told Noach to build an ark. The Torah uses the word "taiva" for arc. The Ba'al ShemTov explains that the word "tatva" also means "words". What words are we talking about? We're speaking of the words of learning Torah and praying. So when we study Torah and pray and cleave to these positive forces, not only will protection from the "waters of the flood" be acquired, but in addition, it converts the negativity of the turbulent waters into the positivity of the peaceful waters of Noach.

Therefore, the different mundane challenges that we face in life can be converted and elevated to holiness and can help us grow and progress in our spiritual and physical development – as long as we have the proper attitude to life's challenges. That is, not to be overwhelmed and frightened, but rather face them with strong faith, to cleave to God, and see that there is a lot of good hidden in the apparent negativities of life.

So, God willing, we should take the experiences and energy of the previous month of Tishrei and use it throughout the year and have only revealed good and happy experiences. ■

Chabad House Calendar

Contact Rabbi Aharon or Esther Goldstein, 734-9953276

Tanya – Jewish Mysticism

Sunday 11:00-noon
Delve into the basic text of Chassidism and discover the beauty and depth of Judaism.

Tea and Torah on Tuesday – For Women

Tuesday 8 p.m.
Reading the Torah may be easy, but understanding it is no simple matter - study of the text in the original, with the classical Rashi commentary.

Worrier to Warrior JLI course

Wednesday 9 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.
Mined from the teachings of Torah and contemporary psychology, this six-week course takes a fresh approach to the battle against bad feelings, providing realistic spiritual mechanisms for remaining upbeat no matter what life brings.

Talmud– Jewish Civil Law

Thursday 8 - 9 p.m.
Sharpen your wits and knowledge of the Jewish legal system by following the intriguing discussions in the Talmud. The Talmud is a composite of practical law, logical argumentation and moral teachings.

Study from the original Talmud tractate.

All classes are postponed on Jewish holidays

Home Hospitality & Meals for Shabbat and Jewish Holidays - please call in advance 995-3276.
Friday night services at Shabbat candle lighting time
Saturday morning services at 9:45 am
Mincha services 45 minutes before sundown ■

Ann Arbor course to help people cope with life challenges

Rabbi Mintz, special to the WJN

This fall, Rabbi Aharon Goldstein of Chabad House of Ann Arbor will offer "Worrier to Warrior," a new six-session course by the acclaimed Rohr Jewish Learning Institute (JLI), to help people deal with life challenges by accepting themselves and finding meaning in adversity.

Beginning Wednesday, November 13, at 9 a.m. and again at 7:30 p.m., participants in the course will take on life's challenges by examining factors that prevent us from achieving a more positive outlook—guilt, shame, and fear of inauthenticity—in light of the notion that a purposeful life provides the key to well-being.

"Everyone faces challenges in life, whether physical, professional, familial, social or otherwise," Rabbi Aharon Goldstein of Chabad House, the local JLI Instructor in Ann Arbor, said "How we deal with these issues is crucial for our ability to achieve lasting satisfaction in life. By finding meaning in personal troubles—seeing them as opportunities—we come to accept ourselves and are emboldened in finding the path forward."

Worrier to Warrior combines positive psychology with Jewish wisdom to explore questions such as: Is there a meaning to life that makes even our difficulties meaningful? Am I just what happens to me or do I have a deeper core? How can I get off the "Hedonic Treadmill," the sense that even life's successes ring hollow?

"All too often people are thrown off their path in life by hardships that sink them into negative emotions or anxiety," explained Rabbi Naftali Silberberg of JLI's Brooklyn, New York headquarters. "In this course, we learn to face our challenges by understanding our lives in a deeper context."

Professor Steven M. Southwick of the Department of Psychiatry at the Yale University School of Medicine has endorsed the course: "It is well-known that positive emotions rest at the heart of overall well-being and happiness. But how to effectively enhance positive emotion remains challenging. Worrier to Warrior approaches this challenge from an insightful perspective grounded in contemporary psychology and Jewish literature. …this is an exciting and very impressive course unlike any I have seen."

Worrier to Warrior, like all JLI programs, is designed to appeal to people at all levels of knowledge, including those without any prior experience or background in Jewish learning. All JLI courses are open to the public, and attendees need not be affiliated with a particular synagogue, temple, or other house of worship.

JLI, the adult education branch of Chabad-Lubavitch, offers programs in more than 800 locations in the U.S. and in numerous foreign countries, including Argentina, Australia, Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, India, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, the Netherlands, Panama, Russia, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom, Uruguay, and Venezuela. More than 400,000 students have attended JLI classes since the organization was founded in 1998.

Interested students may call 734-995-3276 x2 or visit_www.myJLI.com for registration and for other course-related information. ■

High Holidays with ECC, using all the senses

Susan Horowitz, special to the WJN

The children in the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor's Early Childhood Center have been celebrating the High Holidays using their five senses and guided by seven principal values. Very young children learn about the world through active exploration – through manipulating objects; through tasting and smelling different foods; through hearing new sounds. When children explore in this way, they not only learn about these objects, but they also are able to connect to larger concepts and values. Each of the Jewish High Holidays provided an opportunity to employ these values to create unique educational experiences.

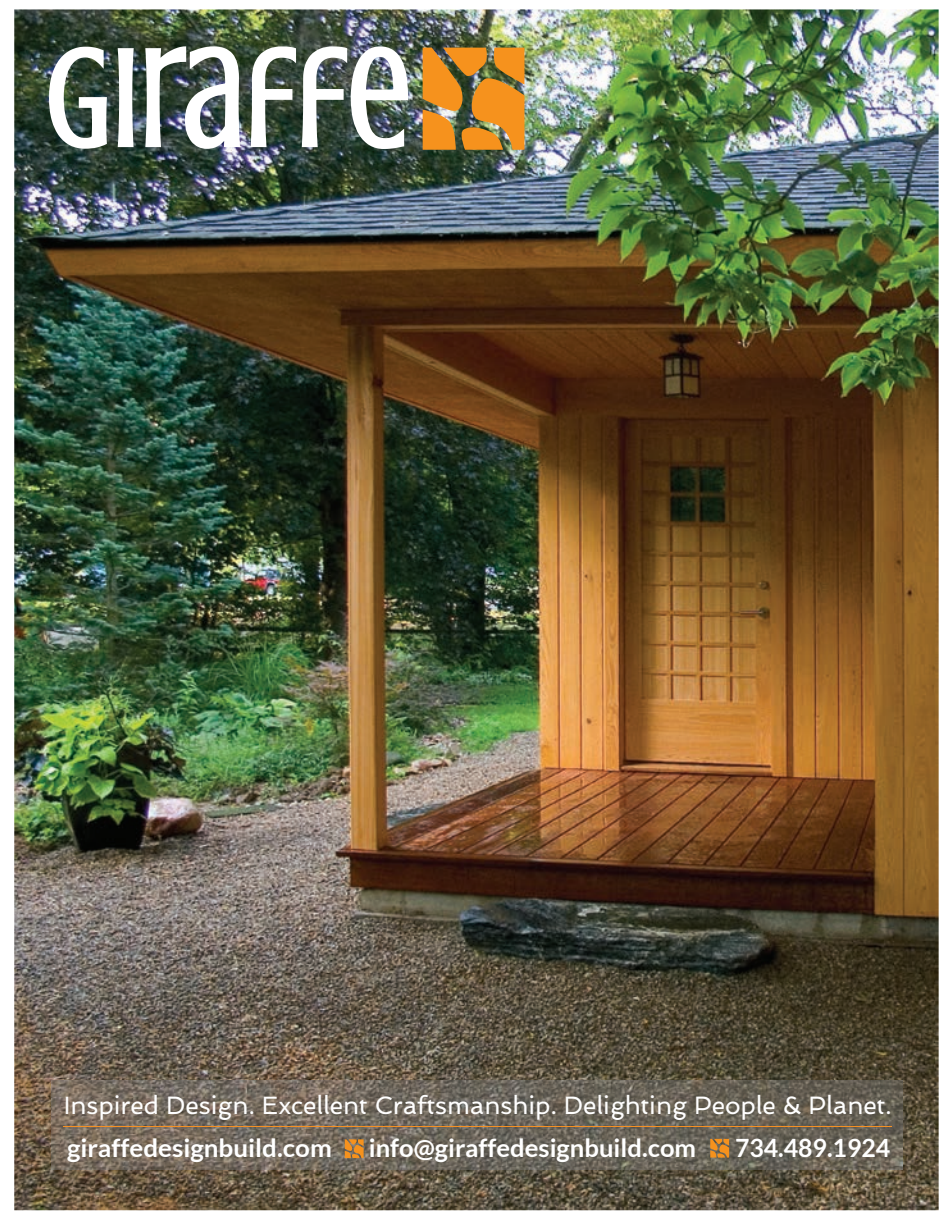
During the weeks leading up to Rosh Hashanah, ECC children gathered every morning to hear the blowing of the Shofar. In their classrooms, they had the opportunity to try to blow the shofar themselves – several children even made some sound come out! In smaller groups, the children tasted apples, charting and graphing the colors and flavors they enjoyed. Apples and honey were built into the snack menu, as well as the more unfamiliar flavor of pomegranate. Even children not yet old enough to eat solid foods had the opportunity to touch and smell the whole apples and pomegranates. Exploring such traditional objects in these ways, the children engaged in *drash* – inquiry and interpretation.

As we moved past Rosh Hashanah, the older children in the center turned toward Yom Kippur. While not traditionally a focus in an early childhood setting, the 3-5 year-olds had an opportunity to participate in a Tashlich walk. After reading *A Rosh Hashanah Walk* by Carol Levin, the children talked about what they felt sorry about, or what they could change in the coming year. They then walked to a nearby river to throw bread crumbs in the water, talking about what they wanted to change as they did so. As each child engaged in an age-appropriate reflection on his or her own actions, they were learning about our value of *masa*, or journey, reflection, return, and renewal. This also gave children a sense of *tzelem Elohim* – the dignity and potential each child has as related to being created in the divine image.

With Sukkot came many more hands-on, engaging activities for the children. Emphasizing our value of *brit* – community, belonging and commitment – the ECC families gathered together to put our garden to bed (ending our harvest season) and build our Sukkah. We also engaged in *tikkun olam* – repairing the world – by taking care of our garden and donating our last harvest to a local food bank. In the days following, children spent time creating various decorations for the Sukkah – making it a special and holy place. They also took time to visit the Sukkah as groups, shaking the *lulav* and *etrog*, and when possible, eating or playing in the Sukkah. This holy place and time emphasized our value of *k'dushah* – holiness, intentionality, and presence.

Rounding out the High Holidays with Simchat Torah, the children examined concepts connected to the Torah and the idea of parading and dancing. The children had an opportunity to make their own flags, and to parade and dance in honor of the Torah. They also were able to see and touch (with a *yad*) a real Torah, and talked about what they would find in it. Through this examination, the children experienced a sense of *hit'orerut* – amazement and gratitude.

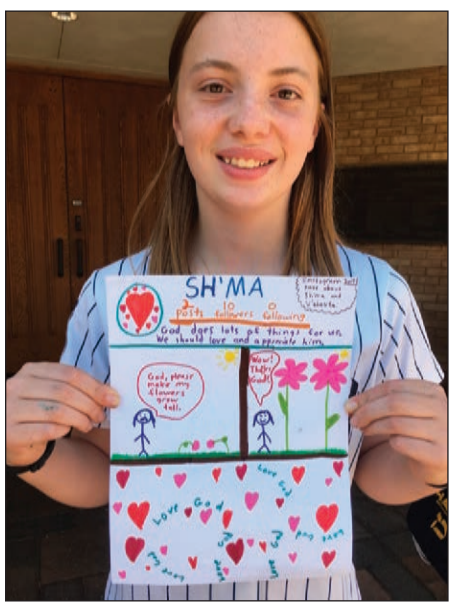
Just as adults find meaning in the High Holidays, children too, can find meaning by using their senses to explore the related objects, and engaging the core values emphasized at the ECC. To learn more about the ECC, go to ecc.jccannarbor.org or contact the Ann Arbor JCC at (734) 971-0990. ■



Prayer and Hebrew for kids and adults at Beth Israel

Mira Sussman, special to the WJN

This year, Beth Israel Religious School has implemented a revamped, school-wide focus on Hebrew and *tefillah* (prayer) skills. The goals are to track and improve Hebrew decoding/reading skills for second through seventh grades, and improve proficiency in both participating in and understanding the meaning of the prayers.



Using the updated *tefillah* curriculum as a guide, second through eighth graders participate in one of two weekly learners minyan services, where they become familiar with the structure of a prayer service, discuss the meaning of various prayers, and have opportunities to practice and lead the prayers that they have learned. In addition, the entire school gathers each Sunday morning for the Havdallah (end of Sabbath) rituals, and community discussion.

New this year is the Hebrew Through Movement program. This aural language acquisition program helps students in kindergarten through 3rd grade gain the pre-reading skills of recognizing sounds and words to facilitate better reading comprehension. Hebrew Through Movement is also a fun way for students to begin to interact with the Hebrew language by playing games, following simple instructions, and moving!

All 2nd through 7th graders participate in Hebrew reading skills assessments at the beginning, middle and end of the school year. These assessments demonstrate to students and parents how the student has progressed in their skills, and help teachers know where they need to focus future instruction.

Middle school students who graduated from Hebrew Day School participate in advanced/conversational Hebrew together with their peers from Temple Beth Emeth. This class, taught entirely in Hebrew by Hebrew Day School teacher Yael Statman, is a fun way for students to maintain their Hebrew language fluency, as well as get together with their HDS classmates on a weekly basis.

This year's focus on Hebrew reading and *tefillah* skills extends into Beth Israel's adult education programming. The new Adult Education Academy, Beth Israel Congregation's menu of adult education opportunities, begins in November, 2019. On November 3, Beth Israel is offering a one-day intensive Hebrew reading course taught by Milka Eliav. This course will introduce adults to the Hebrew alphabet and vowels. Also in November Beth Israel will begin courses on better understanding and participating in the Saturday morning Musaf service, and learning how to read and chant the Torah. In January 2020, Beth Israel will begin to offer a weekly class on Biblical Hebrew and Grammar, taught by Lisbeth Fried.

Beth Israel is also putting together a cohort of adults who wish to have an adult bar or bat mitzvah ceremony. If you are interested, please contact Rav Nadav Caine directly at ravnadav@bethisrael-aa.org.

All courses are open to both members and non-members of Beth Israel Congregation. For more information including times, dates, and cost of classes, please go to www.bethisrael-aa.org. ■

November Learning and More at BIC

One Day Hebrew Reading Intensive

Sunday, November 3, 9:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.

This class is a crash course to introduce participants to the Hebrew alphabet and vowels. No background in Hebrew is necessary. More details soon!

Intro to Judaism

Sunday, November 3 and 17, 2 p.m.

Though directed at people who are considering conversion, this serious examination of the main dimensions of Judaism --from mysticism, to Talmud, to Jewish Holidays and rituals – is open to anyone who wants to deepen their Jewish literacy. This course is open to members and non-members.

Talmud Study with Rabbi Dobrusin

Mondays beginning November 4, 3:30 p.m.

Rabbi Robert Dobrusin will lead a Hebrew text class, studying selections from the Talmud tractate of Brachot. We will study the text in Hebrew with English translations available. This part of the Talmud addresses the subject of the rituals of prayer and contains material which will refer to familiar aspects of our liturgy today. The class will take place from 3:30-4:45 on Monday afternoons. We hope you will join in this opportunity for text study.

Theology Book Club

Wednesdays, 8 p.m.

Beth Israel Congregation's Theology Book Club welcomes you to join them to read together and discuss books on Jewish thought and beliefs. The books are in English.

Shabbat Limmud

Saturday, November 9 and 23, 9 a.m.

Held before Shabbat morning services by Rabbi Robert Dobrusin, this session offers a lively discussion on Parashat HaShavua, the Torah portion of the week and other traditional texts. Join us in the library for Torah study over coffee and cake!

Tot Shabbat

Saturday, November 9, 23, 11:15 a.m.

Tot Shabbat, led by Alona Henig, is our special Shabbat morning program for preschoolers and their parents with songs, stories, prayers, and the Shabbat "Mystery Box" Tot Shabbat meets on the second and fourth Saturday of each month downstairs in the Krickstein Youth Library.

The Magical Musical Shabbat: A Family Friendly Dinner and Service

Friday, November 15, 6 p.m.

Everyone is invited to the next family-friendly dinner and service of the year. Come with your immediate family, your friends, or come be with your Beth Israel family! The evening begins with dinner at 6 p.m. After dinner everyone will gather around a Shabbat table filled with candles, tzedakah boxes, and challot, and sing while accompanied by camp-style guitar. In the glow of candles, we'll bless each other, sing Shabbat prayers and listen to a brief teaching. Then it is time for dessert! There is no charge for the dinner, but please RSVP to Beth at office@bethisrael-aa.org or RSVP online (www.bethisrael-aa.org). Sponsored by David and Ruth Markovitz, Terry Ginsburg and Jeffrey Spoon, Eric and Martha Young.

Learner's Shabbat

Saturday, November 16, 9:30 a.m.

Rav Nadav will be leading alternative Saturday morning service experiences in the beautiful new M&M Chapel from 9:30 to 10:30 am, at which time we'll move upstairs to join the main service. Halakhically these will fall under the rubric of "Learner's Services" during which one may focus on learning and deepening our experience of the prayers rather than reciting them comprehensively. Often we'll be spending this time focusing on a single prayer: learning the meanings of the prayer and practicing it. Sometimes we'll be playful in our deepening our davening through meditation or healing. We hope you will join us in the spirit of experimentation and learning as we gather in the chapel.

Parent's Night Out

Saturday, November 16, 6 - 9 p.m.

Parents' Night Out is a new Beth Israel program for PARENTS! Drop off your child (ages 5 – 15 years old) at the synagogue and enjoy an evening to yourselves. We have curated experiences for parents to meet other parents - grab a seat at Cultivate and sample Transient Brewing's rare and sought-after beers (all on tap for one day only) or share a table with others at York (formerly Morgan & York) for a bite to eat and a glass of wine. Or - create your own experience; it's up to you! Children will be served dinner (likely pizza, salad, cookies/brownies) and there will be a movie playing, along with some crafts for those who want to create. The cost is $10 for the first child and $8 for each additional child. Please direct any inquiries to Amanda at engage@bethisrael-aa.org.

Shabbat Musaf Class

Sunday, November 17 and 24, 10 a.m.

Participants will delve into the purpose and history of the Musaf service, which is the additional service that is said after the Torah reading on Shabbat and holidays. Participants will learn about the individual tefillot (prayers) and how to more fully participate in this Saturday morning service. Taught by Ron Sussman. Free for BIC members, $72 for non-members. Classes will meet on November 17, November 24, December 8, December 15, January 5, and January 12.

Torah Reading Class

Sunday, November 17 and 24, 11 a.m.

This class is for people who can read Hebrew and are interested in learning how to chant/sing from the Torah. Participants will be introduced to trope (the musical notation), with opportunities to practice chanting the Torah. This class will also touch on the connections between Torah and Haftorah, liturgically and musically. Free for BIC members, $72 for non-members. Classes will meet on November 17, November 24, December 8, December 15, January 5, and January 12.

Friendsgiving Potluck

Friday, November 29, 7 p.m.

Bring your Thanksgiving leftovers (vegetarian/dairy) and share them with friends at BIC's Friendsgiving Potluck. Come for Kabbalat Shabbat services at 6 p.m. and then gather in GSAC 2010 for the potluck. Contact Amanda Glucklich (engage@bethisrael-aa.org) for more information. ■

TBE Gift shop renovation

Trina Fuller, special to the WJN

The Women of Temple Beth Emeth invite the community to drop in and shop at their newly renovated Judaica gift shop, the largest Judaica shop in the Ann Arbor area. The WTBE gift shop stocks items for B'nai Mitzvah, housewarming, and weddings and carries a large selection of home observance items such as Shabbat candles, candle sticks, Kiddush cups, Havdalah sets, *mezuzzot*, kosher parchment scrolls, and yahrzeit candles. Additionally, the shop features beautiful jewelry from Israel, artwork, and home decor items. Women's and men's *kippot* and *tallitot* are in stock with new styles arriving often.

All proceeds from the WTBE gift shop are used in our community to provide scholarships, fund religious education and promote Jewish values. During the entire month of November the shop is offering a 15% discount on all Hanukiahs. Shop Local at 2309 Packard in Ann Arbor: Wed 4-6., Sun 2:30-5:30, Friday 6:30-7:30 pm (except 4th Friday Guitar Shabbat, 5:30-6:30p.m.), or by appointment (please use main TBE number, 734-665-4744) for arrangements. Cash, checks, or credit/debit. Make plans now to visit the WTBE Hanukah Bazaar Saturday, December 7 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Thursday, December 19 from 3 to7:30 p.m (Hanukah begins on Sunday December 22 this year). ■

TBE Events November 2019

Families with Young Children (FYC): Tot Shabbat Service

Fridays, November 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29, 5:45 p.m., TBE Sanctuary

5:45 p.m. | Tot (0–5 year olds) Shabbat Services with Rabbi Whinston and Cantor Hayut

6:15 p.m. Dinner for Tot Shabbat | 6:45 p.m. Shira Service

All of your favorite songs led by TBE's tot team, Cantor Hayut and Rabbi Whinston.

Join us for macaroni and cheese, fish sticks, applesauce, and a salad bar immediately following the short service. Dinner is just $5 per person. Buy a punch card ahead of time for a discounted price. Punch cards are available in the TBE office.

Weekly Lunch & Learn

Fridays, November 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29, TBE Adult Lounge, Noon

Rabbi Whinston meets on Fridays for an informal discussion about religion. Sessions are open to the entire community. Feel free to bring your lunch.

Saturday Torah Study

Saturdays, November 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30, 8:50 a.m.

Join us for this weekly discussion of the Torah portion led by Rabbi Whinston.

Women's Torah Study

Mondays, November 4 & 18, 7:00 p.m.

An in-depth study and lively discussion of the week's Torah portion led by Cantor Regina Hayut. The group will explore various passages from the portion looking at several translations and commentaries from a variety of scholars from Talmudic times to the modern day. No Hebrew knowledge necessary to participate in the discussion. For questions, contact Cantor Regina Hayut at cantorhayut@templebethemeth.org.

Guitar-led Shabbat Service with Guest Danny Maseng

Fridays, November 22, 6:30-8:30 p.m., TBE Sanctuary

Join us for a special Shabbat service with guest musician Danny Maseng! A playwright, actor, singer and composer, Danny has served as Evaluator of New American Plays/Opera-Musical Theater for the National Endowment For The Arts, as the Director of the Spielberg Fellowships for the RJC, as Spiritual Leader of URJ Congregation Agudas Achim in NY and as Cantor of Temple Israel of Hollywood in California. Maseng is currently the Chassan and Spiritual Leader of Makom LA, a new, dynamic post-denominational Jewish Community, in Los Angeles.

Euchre Night

Saturday, November 2, 8:00 p.m., TBE Adult Lounge

Grab a partner or come alone! All levels welcome.

Contact Dave Ostreicher, djostrei@umich.edu, with questions.

Meditation with Linda Greene

Thursdays, November 7, 14, 21 & 28, 1:00 p.m., TBE Chapel

Linda Greene offers brief Jewish teachings and leads a 20-30 minute meditation time. Contact Linda Greene, lingreene@gmail.com, with questions.

Tot Shabbat Tastes Ann Arbor

Friday, November 15, Tot Service at 5:45 p.m. and Dinner at 6:15 p.m., TBE

Tot Shabbat Tastes Ann Arbor is resuming for the 2019-2020 year! We will meet on the third Friday of each month, and enjoy a rotating menu from local, kid-friendly restaurants. $5/children, $8/adults, $25/maximum per family.

TBE Families Meet-Up with PJ Library

Sunday, November 24, 10:00 a.m., Rotating Parks

Join TBE Families for our rotating monthly meet-up! There will be opportunities for play, snacks, and socializing. Contact Beth Pearson, bethlpearson@gmail.com, with questions.

Danny Maseng Concert

Saturday, November 23, 7:00 p.m., TBE Sanctuary

Join TBE in welcoming Danny Maseng to Ann Arbor! Maseng is an Israel-born actor, singer and writer known as a composer of contemporary Jewish liturgical music. Tickets are $15 for TBE members and $20 for the general public. Contact the TBE office, 734-665-4744, for a registration link.

Erev Thanksgiving Interfaith Service

Tuesday, November 26, 7:00 p.m., TBE Sanctuary

Join us for our annual Erev Thanksgiving service, a joint service of TBE and St. Clare's Church. The choirs will sing, the priest and the rabbi will speak, and we will thank God for all we've been given. All are welcome! ■

Congresswoman gets flak, continued from page 8

Now Luria is ready to mention Trump — and mention him often. She slotted a third of the town hall — her first since she switched sides on impeachment — to dealing with the inquiry.

"I did not go to Washington to impeach the president," she said in response to the first question. "I didn't spend 20 years in uniform defending our country to watch things like this happen."

That was in answer to a friendly question. Others were not so friendly.

Church staffers, who are close to Luria — she attended services there after a parishioner, Keith Cox, was murdered in May in a mass shooting in Virginia Beach — seemed at times embarrassed reading angry questions that were submitted on index cards.

Luria was asked if she supported the "misrepresentation" of a transcript of Trump's phone call with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky by Rep. Adam Schiff, D-Calif., the chairman of the House Intelligence Committee. Another questioner suggested that the president was obliged under international law to press the Ukrainians on Biden. A third wondered why Luria was rushing to judgment.

Luria did not retreat.

"If you don't like who's representing you," she said at one point, "you can vote next year."

In an interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency following the event, Luria said she was interested in preserving her integrity, not her career.

"I made the decision because I thought it was right," she said, "and I could say that 10 years from now, I can look in the mirror and say I made the right decision and I was on the right side of history. And if that does impact at the ballot box in the future, then so be it."

It might not be enough for conservative constituents who admire her military background but believe that impeachment is a bridge too far.

"I respect her for what she's doing," said Joe Clark, 45, a Navy veteran. "I hope she's listening to all sides — but this is not that."

During the town hall, Luria showed how she might still navigate a victory in the swing district, emphasizing her constituent service record, particularly in assisting veterans needing medical care. The setting itself underscored the support she has among African-Americans.

"You are not going to be here to heckle the congresswoman!" a staffer told someone who booed her. Ray Cox, the pastor and father of the slain Keith Cox, called her "sister."

Luria pointed out, unprompted, that 2019 is the 400th anniversary of the start of the slave trade in America.

On guns, Luria said she wanted to close loopholes on background checks and backed an assault weapons ban. But like many other Southern Democrats, she also emphasized her closeness to hunters. She recalled her dad taking her shooting when she was growing up in Alabama and said she had just spent time with a local hunting club.

Luria also insistently recalled her military service.

"This is a community that is full of people whose livelihoods depend on national security," she told reporters before the event. "When we talk about issues to do with the military deploying around the world, it isn't somewhere far off. It's your husband, it's your wife, it's your neighbor."

Luria still speaks in clipped military jargon. Asked about Trump's appeal to China on Thursday to also investigate Biden, she said, "It is a near-peer competitor in the Pacific. It is reprehensible and I don't think we can allow it."

Despite the pointed questions, the overall reception was supportive, and Luria was given multiple standing ovations, including when she said about backing the impeachment inquiry, "I did it without regard to political consequences. I don't care because I did the right thing."

"She did the right thing!" Nancy Lang, a retired secretary, echoed in an interview. "The gentleman in the White House is not very kind."

Luria also alluded to her Jewish background when she pushed back against a jab at Democrats' opposition to funding a border wall with Mexico.

"I really hate the rhetoric the discussion of the wall brings up," she said. "I think about my family and how they came to this country."

She clarified to JTA afterward that her ancestors were not refugees, that they had come from Poland, Germany and Lithuania pursuing the American dream.

"As a country, we're not clean in this," she said. "We turned people away during the Holocaust."

There were some risks Luria would not take.

Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam, a physician, was excoriated earlier this year when he explained the procedure for dealing with a terminally ill newborn. Conservatives misrepresented his remarks as endorsing euthanasia.

Answering a question based on the misrepresentation, Luria hesitated, then said to applause, "I would condemn anyone who would think that you can kill a living child."

Outside the church, about a dozen protesters held up Trump signs and called on Luria to resign. One of them, John Fredericks, a radio talk show host who is among Trump's leading backers in the state, said Luria had imperiled her re-election.

"She said she would be different, she's an AOC tool," he said, referring to Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, a progressive from New York who has become a bete noire of conservatives. "We're going to take this district back." ■

November 2019

Friday 1

Lunch and Learn: TBE. Adult Lounge. Rabbi Whinston meets on Fridays for an informal discussion about religion. Sessions are open to the entire community. Feel free to bring your lunch. Noon–1 p.m.

Tot Shabbat: TBE. Tot Shabbat (0-5yrs) from 5:45–6:15 p.m. Tot Shabbat Dinner from 6:15–6:45 p.m.

Friday evening services: See listing at the end of the calendar.

Saturday 2

Torah Study: TBE. Weekly discussion of the Torah portion led by Rabbi Whinston 8:50 a.m.

Euchre Night: TBE. 8-10 p.m.

Shabbat services: *See listing at the end of the calendar.*

Sunday 3

Preschool Theater Games with Wild Swan Theater: HDS and PJ Library. At the Jewish Community Center. This event, for preschoolers ages 3 to 5, is free of charge. Space is limited. All families attending will be entered into a drawing to win a gift certificate to Wild Swan Theater. Please RSVP to areingold@hdsaa.org.

One Day Hebrew Reading Intensive: BIC. Taught by Milka Eliav, this class is a crash course to introduce participants to the Hebrew alphabet and vowels. No background in Hebrew is necessary. 9:30 a.m. – Noon.

Intro to Judaism: BIC. Though directed at people who are considering conversion, this serious examination of the main dimensions of Judaism --from mysticism to Talmud to Jewish Holidays and rituals – is open to anyone who wants to deepen their Jewish literacy. This course is open to members and non-members. 2 p.m.

Kol HaLev Rehearsal: TBE. 6:15-7:45 p.m.

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidim and discover the beauty and depth of Judaism. 11a.m. noon.

Monday 4

WTBE Fiber Arts: TBE, Adult Lounge. All are welcome – beginners to experts, we help each other to get better at our craft. We have some project ideas and materials to help you out. As a group we will be knitting hats for cancer patients that can be completed successfully as a beginner. For more information contact Martha Weintraub at weintraub.martha@gmail.com. 7–8:30 p.m.

Talmud Study with Rabbi Dobrusin: BIC. Rabbi Dobrusin leads a Hebrew text class, studying selections from the Talmud tractate of Brachot. The text will be studied in Hebrew with English translations available. 3:30 – 4:45 p.m.

Caring for You Caring for Me: JFS. At United Way of Ann Arbor, 2305 Platt Road.4-6p.m.

Women's Torah Study: TBE. An in-depth study and lively discussion of the week's Torah portion led by Cantor Regina Hayut. The group will explore various passages from the portion looking at several translations and commentaries from a variety of scholars from Talmudic times to the modern day. No Hebrew knowledge necessary to participate in the discussion. For questions, contact Cantor Regina Hayut at cantorhayut@templebethemeth.org. 7–9 p.m.

Tom Warick,"Should we be afraid: US Counterterrorism Policy and Modern Politics": JCC. Sponsored by the Cardozo Society. Registration Fee, $10. www.jccannarbor/cardozo19. 7p.m.

Tuesday 5

Spirituality Book Club: TBE. Led by TBE Cantor Emeritus Annie Rose. Harold Kushner:Nine Essential Things I've Learned About Life (2016) Plus selected prayers by Alden Solovy. 7:30-9:00 p.m.

Jewish Community, Race, and Social Justice with Ilana Kaufman: JCLP. The event will be held in the Educational Conference Center of the School of Social Work (1080 S University Ave). 7-9 p.m.

Tea and Torah on Tuesday—for Women: Chabad. Reading the Torah may be easy, but understanding it is no simple matter. Study of the text with the classical Rashi commentary. 8 p.m.

Wednesday 6

Worrier to Warrior JLI course: Chabad. Mined from the teachings of Torah and contemporary psychology, this six-week course takes a fresh approach to the battle against bad feelings, providing realistic spiritual mechanisms for remaining upbeat no matter what life brings. 9 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Yidish tish ייִדיש טיש (Yiddish Conversation & Reading Group): JCC, Conference Room. Combines the long-time JCC Yiddish reading group and the former UM conversational one, about 45 minutes each of conversation and reading. Free and open to all who are interested in Yiddish language, literature, and culture; level of proficiency and age of no consequence. A variety of topics are discussed with an effort to improve participants' Yiddish speaking and reading skills, especially vocabulary. All are welcome to join in at any time, or to just listen. For more information or to make certain that we are meeting on a specific day, please e-mail Elliot H. Gertel at egertel@umich.edu or call Lily Ladin at (734) 662-6613 at least one day before scheduled meeting day. 10:30 a.m. -- 12 noon.

Mega Challah Bake: Location: Palmer Commons, 100 Washtenaw, Ann Arbor, MI. Event Fee: $36-Online Registration: https://www.jewmich.com/megachallah. 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Dennis Ross: Frankel Center. On his new book, *Be Strong and of Good Courage: How Israel's Most Important Leaders Shaped its Destiny*. The event will be held in Rackham Amphitheatre. 315 E Washington. 7 p.m.

Theology Book Club: BIC - GSAC 2010 Lower Level. Join the Theology Book Club to read and discuss books on Jewish thought and beliefs. 8 p.m.

Thursday 7

Spirituality Book Club: TBE. Led by TBE Cantor Emeritus Annie Rose. Harold Kushner:Nine Essential Things I've Learned About Life (2016) Plus selected prayers by Alden Solovy. Noon..

Innovations in Aging Symposium with keynote Louise Aronson: JFS. The event is set to take place at the Rackham Graduate Building from 8:30a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Jewish Meditation with Linda Greene: TBE. 1-2 p.m.,

Back Door Food Pantry: TBE. 4–7 p.m.

Talmud–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. Sharpen your wits and knowledge of the Jewish legal system by following the intriguing discussions in the Talmud. The Talmud is a composite of practical law, logical argumentation and moral teachings. Study from the original Talmud tractate. 8 p.m. *Thursdays*

Friday 8

Lunch and Learn: TBE. Adult Lounge. Rabbi Whinston meets on Fridays for an informal discussion about religion. Sessions are open to the entire community. Feel free to bring your lunch. Noon–1 p.m.

Tot Shabbat: TBE. Tot Shabbat (0-5yrs) from 5:45–6:15 p.m. Tot Shabbat Dinner from 6:15–6:45 p.m.

Shabbat with Kol Halev: TBE. 7:30 – 9 p.m.

Friday evening services: *See listing at the end of the calendar.*

Saturday 9

Torah Study: TBE. Weekly discussion of the Torah portion led by Rabbi Whinston 8:50–9:50 a.m.

Shabbat Limmud: BIC. Held before Shabbat morning services by Rabbi Robert Dobrusin, this session will offer a lively discussion on Parashat Ha-Shavua, the Torah portion of the week and other traditional texts. 9 a.m.

Bat Mitzvah Service: TBE. 10 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Tot Shabbat: BIC. This special Shabbat morning program is for preschoolers and their parents with songs, stories, prayers, and the Shabbat "Mystery Box." 11:15 a.m.

Building Bridges Across the Racial Divide: Crazy Wisdom Bookstore. Larry and Sandy Feldman. 2-4 p.m.

Shabbat services: See listing at the end of the calendar.

Sunday 10

Bagels, Schmear and Parenting – Two authors: @ the J. *Look How Happy I'm Making You: Stories* by Polly Rosenwaike and *Act Natural: A Cultural History of Misadventures in Parenting* by Jenny Traig. Polly Rosenwaike is a freelance editor in Ann Arbor and the fiction editor of *Michigan Quarterly Review*. Traig explores parenting throughout the ages in this alternately hilarious and disturbing historical survey. Traig is the author of *Devil in the Details* and *Well Enough Alone*. She holds a PhD in English from Brandeis, and lives with her family in Michigan. The authors' books will be available for purchase. Authors will be signing their books. Register at book.jccannarbor.org. $12/person, $5 Childcare Fee per family (pre-registration required). 11 am

Kol HaLev Rehearsal: TBE. 6:15-7:45 p.m.

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidim and discover the beauty and depth of Judaism. 11a.m. noon.

Monday 11

WTBE Historical Novel Reading Group: TBE. This month's read is *The Book of Light* by Chaim Potok. 12:30–2:30 p.m.

Talmud Study with Rabbi Dobrusin: BIC. Rabbi Dobrusin leads a Hebrew text class, studying selections from the Talmud tractate of Brachot. The text will be studied in Hebrew with English translations available. 3:30 – 4:45 p.m.

Caring for You Caring for Me: JFS. At United Way of Ann Arbor, 2305 Platt Road.4-6p.m.

Tuesday 12

Jews, Genetics and the Search for Lost Ancestors: Frankel Center. Steve Weitzman, University of Pennsylvania Room 2022 202 S. Thayer.

Back Door Food Pantry Volunteer Appreciation: TBE. 7-8:30 p.m.

Tea and Torah on Tuesday—for Women: Chabad. Reading the Torah may be easy, but understanding it is no simple matter. Study of the text with the classical Rashi commentary. 8 p.m.

Brotherhood Hebrew Bible Study: TBE. 7:30 - 9 p.m.

Wednesday 13

Worrier to Warrior JLI course: Chabad. Mined from the teachings of Torah and contemporary psychology, this six-week course takes a fresh approach to the battle against bad feelings, providing realistic spiritual mechanisms for remaining upbeat no matter what life brings. 9 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Yidish tishייִדיש טיש (Yiddish Conversation & Reading Group): JCC, Conference Room. Combines the long-time JCC Yiddish reading group and the former UM conversational one, about 45 minutes each of conversation and reading. Free and open to all who are interested in Yiddish language, literature, and culture; level of proficiency and age of no consequence. A variety of topics are discussed with an effort to improve participants' Yiddish speaking and reading skills, especially vocabulary. All are welcome to join in at any time, or to just listen. For more information or to make certain that we are meeting on a specific day, please e-mail Elliot H. Gertel at egertel@umich.edu or call Lily Ladin at (734) 662-6613 at least one day before scheduled meeting day. 10:30 a.m. -- 12 noon.

Theology Book Club: BIC - GSAC 2010 Lower Level. Join the Theology Book Club to read and discuss books on Jewish thought and beliefs. 8 p.m.

Thursday 14

Engaging with the Public: Approaches and Concerns for Public Scholars Bryan Roby, University of Michigan 2022 202 S. Thayer 1-2:30 p.m.

Jewish Meditation with Linda Greene: TBE. 1-2 p.m.,

Back Door Food Pantry: TBE. 4–7 p.m.

Talmud–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. See first Thursday of month for details. 8 p.m. *Thursdays.*

Friday 15

Lunch and Learn: TBE. Adult Lounge. Rabbi Whinston meets on Fridays for an informal discussion about religion. Sessions are open to the entire community. Feel free to bring your lunch. Noon–1 p.m.

Tot Shabbat: TBE. Tot Shabbat (0-5yrs) from 5:45–6:15 p.m. Tot Shabbat Tastes Ann Arbor $5/children, $8/adults, $25/maximum per family from 6:15–6:45 p.m.

The Magical Musical Shabbat: A Family Friendly Dinner and Service: BIC. The evening begins with dinner at 6 p.m. After dinner everyone will gather around a Shabbat table filled with candles, tzedakah boxes, and challot, and sing while accompanied by camp-style guitar. In the glow of candles, we'll bless each other, sing Shabbat prayers and listen to a brief teaching. Then it is time for dessert! RSVP online at www.bethisrael-aa.org. 6 p.m.

Friday evening services: See listing at the end of the calendar.

Saturday 16

Learner's Shabbat: BIC. Halakhically these will fall under the rubric of "Learner's Services" during which one may focus on learning and deepening our experience of the prayers rather than reciting them comprehensively. 9:30 a.m.

Torah Study: TBE. Weekly discussion of the Torah portion led by Rabbi Whinston 8:50-9:50 a.m.

Parent's Night Out. BIC. Catch a movie, explore a restaurant, or take a much-needed nap! Drop your kids off at BIC and enjoy an evening out -- or in. Dinner, snacks and entertainment provided for kids ages 5-15. $10 for one child, $8 each additional. Contact Amanda at engage@bethisrael-aa.org for more info or to sign up. 6 – 9 p.m.

Shabbat services: *See listing at the end of the calendar.*

Sunday 17

Foundations of Jewish Family Living: AAOM and PJ Library. Monthly at the JCC. 10 a.m.

Shabbat Musaf Class: BIC. Participants will delve into the purpose and history of the Musaf service, and will learn about the individual tefillot (prayers) and how to more fully participate in this Saturday morning service. Taught by Ron Sussman. Free for BIC members, $72 for non-members. 10a.m.

Calendar

Torah Reading Class: BIC. This class is for people who can read Hebrew and are interested in learning how to chant/sing from the Torah. Participants will be introduced to trope (the musical notation), with opportunities to practice chanting the Torah. Free for BIC members, $72 for non-members. 11 a.m.

Intro to Judaism: BIC. Though directed at people who are considering conversion, this serious examination of the main dimensions of Judaism --from mysticism to Talmud to Jewish Holidays and rituals – is open to anyone who wants to deepen their Jewish literacy. This course is open to members and non-members. 2 p.m.

Kol HaLev Rehearsal: TBE. 6:15-7:45 p.m.

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidim and discover the beauty and depth of Judaism. 11a.m. noon.

Monday 18

Talmud Study with Rabbi Dobrusin: BIC. Rabbi Dobrusin leads a Hebrew text class, studying selections from the Talmud tractate of Brachot. The text will be studied in Hebrew with English translations available. 3:30 – 4:45 p.m.

Caring for You Caring for Me: JFS. At United Way of Ann Arbor, 2305 Platt Road.4-6p.m.

Padnos Lecture: The Yiddish Columbus: Critical Counter-History and the Remapping of American Jewish Literature Rachel Rubinstein, Hampshire College 4:00-5:30 PM Room 2022 202 S. Thayer.

Women's Torah Study: TBE. An in-depth study and lively discussion of the week's Torah portion led by Cantor Regina Hayut. The group will explore various passages from the portion looking at several translations and commentaries from a variety of scholars from Talmudic times to the modern day. No Hebrew knowledge necessary to participate in the discussion. For questions, contact Cantor Regina Hayut at cantorhayut@templebethemeth.org. 7–9 p.m.

WTBE Fiber Arts: TBE, Adult Lounge. For more information contact Martha Weintraub at weintraub.martha@gmail.com. 7:30–9:30 p.m.

Tuesday 19

Yiddish in Poland: Past, Present, and Future Frankel Institute Fellows: Karolina Szymaniakl Guest Scholars: Genevieve Zubrzycki, Benjamin Paloff 4:00-5:30 PM Room 2022 202 S. Thayer

Tea and Torah on Tuesday—for Women: Chabad. Reading the Torah may be easy, but understanding it is no simple matter. Study of the text with the classical Rashi commentary. 8 p.m.

Wednesday 20

Worrier to Warrior JLI course: Chabad. Mined from the teachings of Torah and contemporary psychology, this six-week course takes a fresh approach to the battle against bad feelings, providing realistic spiritual mechanisms for remaining upbeat no matter what life brings. 9 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Yidish tish ייִדיש טיש(Yiddish Conversation & Reading Group): JCC, Conference Room. For more information or to make certain that we are meeting on a specific day, please e-mail Elliot H. Gertel at egertel@umich.edu or call Lily Ladin at (734) 662-6613 at least one day before scheduled meeting day. 10:30 a.m. -- 12 noon.

Theology Book Club: BIC - GSAC 2010 Lower Level. Join the Theology Book Club to read and discuss books on Jewish thought and beliefs. 8 p.m.

Thursday 21

Jewish Meditation with Linda Greene: TBE. 1-2 p.m.,

Back Door Food Pantry: TBE. 4–7 p.m.

Brotherhood Guys' Night Out: TBE Offsite. 6:30-8 p.m.

Author Talk, *A Rosenberg by Any Other Name: A History of Jewish Name Changing in America* by Kirsten Fermaglich@ the J. The author will present her groundbreaking history of the practice of Jewish name changing in the 20th century, showcasing just how much is in a name. Fermaglich won the 2019 Saul Viener Book Prize, given by the American Jewish Historical Society. The author's book will be available for purchasing and signing. $8 /person. **Register at book.jccannarbor.org.7 p. m.**

Talmud–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. See first Thursday of month for details. 8 p.m. *Thursdays.*

Friday 22

Lunch and Learn: TBE. Adult Lounge. Rabbi Whinston meets on Fridays for an informal discussion about religion. Sessions are open to the entire community. Feel free to bring your lunch. Noon–1 p.m.

Tot Shabbat: TBE. Tot Shabbat (0-5yrs) from 5:45–6:15 p.m. Tot Shabbat Dinner from 6:15–6:45 p.m.

Guitar-led Shabbat Service: TBE. With guest Danny Maseng. Sanctuary 6:30–8 p.m.

Friday evening services: See listing at the end of the calendar.

Saturday 23

Torah Study: TBE. Weekly discussion of the Torah portion led by Rabbi Whinston 8:50 – 9:50 a.m.

Shabbat Limmud: BIC. Held before Shabbat morning services by Rabbi Robert Dobrusin, this session will offer a lively discussion on Parashat Ha-Shavua, the Torah portion of the week and other traditional texts. 9 a.m.

Tot Shabbat: BIC. This special Shabbat morning program is for preschoolers and their parents with songs, stories, prayers, and the Shabbat "Mystery Box." 11:15 a.m.

Danny Maseng Concert: TBE. 7p.m.

Shabbat services: *See listing at the end of the calendar.*

Sunday 24

Shabbat Musaf Class: BIC. Participants will delve into the purpose and history of the Musaf service, and will learn about the individual tefillot (prayers) and how to more fully participate in this Saturday morning service. Taught by Ron Sussman. Free for BIC members, $72 for non-members. 10a.m.

Reimagining Judaism in Israel: Ethno-Nationalism and the Privatization of Tradition with Tomer Persico, Ph.D./Presentation and Brunch @ the J. Over the last three decades major changes have transformed the Jewish religious and social field in Israel, facilitating the liquidation of traditional barriers and the formation of novel ways of conceiving and expressing Jewish Identity. Secular Zionism has lost its cultural and social hegemony, while Religious Zionism and Ultra-Orthodoxy are in a crisis of identity. Correspondingly, Jews in Israel have developed an individualistic interest in their tradition, creating what is referred to as the "Jewish Renaissance," while others have constituted a Jewish identity anchored in ethnicity and nationalism. Free, RSVP Requested. 10 am.

TBE Families Monthly Meet-Up: Offsite. 10a.m.-Noon.

Torah Reading Class: BIC. This class is for people who can read Hebrew and are interested in learning how to chant/sing from the Torah. Participants will be introduced to trope (the musical notation), with opportunities to practice chanting the Torah. Free for BIC members, $72 for non-members. 11 a.m.

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidim and discover the beauty and depth of Judaism. 11a.m.- noon.

Kol HaLev Rehearsal: TBE. 6:15-7:45 p.m.

Naomi Chazan "A Shared Struggle: Democratic Values in Israel and America": BIC. 7p.m.

Monday 25

Talmud Study with Rabbi Dobrusin: BIC. Rabbi Dobrusin leads a Hebrew text class, studying selections from the Talmud tractate of Brachot. The text will be studied in Hebrew with English translations available. 3:30 – 4:45 p.m.

Turkey-less Thanksgiving/Family Event@ the J. Co-sponsored by PJ Library, families will share in a special Thanksgiving story involving an immigrant family who chooses to celebrate Thanksgiving, but their plans for a turkey go wrong. What do they do? Join us to find out! We will also be enjoying a kosher turkey-less dinner and Thanksgiving craft. $7 per person over 2 years old. 5:45-7 pm

Women's Torah Study: TBE. An in-depth study and lively discussion of the week's Torah portion led by Cantor Regina Hayut. The group will explore various passages from the portion looking at several translations and commentaries from a variety of scholars from Talmudic times to the modern day. No Hebrew knowledge necessary to participate in the discussion. For questions, contact Cantor Regina Hayut at cantorhayut@templebethemeth.org. 7–8:30p.m

Tuesday 26

Erev Thanksgiving Interfaith Service: TBE. 7p.m.

Tea and Torah on Tuesday–for Women: Chabad. 8 p.m. *See first Tuesday of month.*

Wednesday 27

Worrier to Warrior JLI course: Chabad. Mined from the teachings of Torah and contemporary psychology, this six-week course takes a fresh approach to the battle against bad feelings, providing realistic spiritual mechanisms for remaining upbeat no matter what life brings. 9 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Yidish tish ייִדיש טיש(Yiddish Conversation & Reading Group): JCC, Conference Room. For more information or to make certain that we are meeting on a specific day, please e-mail Elliot H. Gertel at egertel@umich.edu or call Lily Ladin at (734) 662-6613 at least one day before scheduled meeting day. 10:30 a.m. -- 12 noon.

Theology Book Club: BIC - GSAC 2010 Lower Level. Join the Theology Book Club to read and discuss books on Jewish thought and beliefs. 8 p.m.

Thursday 28

Jewish Meditation with Linda Greene: TBE. 1-2 p.m.,

Back Door Food Pantry: TBE. 4–7 p.m.

Talmud–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. See first Thursday of month for details. 8 p.m. *Thursdays.*

Friday 29

Lunch and Learn: TBE. Adult Lounge. Rabbi Whinston meets on Fridays for an informal discussion about religion. Sessions are open to the entire community. Feel free to bring your lunch. Noon–1 p.m.

Tot Shabbat: TBE. Tot Shabbat (0-5yrs) from 5:45–6:15 p.m. Tot Shabbat Dinner from 6:15–6:45 p.m.

Friendsgiving Potluck: BIC – GSAC 2010 Lower Level. Bring your leftovers (vegetarian/dairy) from Thanksgiving and share them with your friends at BIC's Friendsgiving Potluck. 7 p.m.

Friday evening services: See listing at the end of the calendar.

Saturday 30

Torah Study: TBE. Weekly discussion of the Torah portion led by Rabbi Whinston 8:50 – 9:50 a.m.

Weekly Friday night Shabbat services

Shabbat Service: AAOM. Services held at UM Hillel at candle lighting. Contact rabbi@annarborminyan.org to confirm time.

Shabbat Service: BIC. 6 p.m.

Shabbat Service: TBE. Tot Shabbat at 6 p.m., followed by tot dinner. Traditional Service at 7:30 p.m. Once a month Middle School Service at 7:30 p.m. For information, call (734) 665-4744.

Shabbat Service: AARC. Every fourth Friday at the JCC. Tot Shabbat from 5:45–6:15 p.m. Pizza for the little ones at 6:15 p.m. Service at 6:30 p.m., followed by vegetarian potluck at 8 p.m. Childcare during service. All are welcome to attend. For information, email info@aarecon.org, phone (734) 445-1910, or visit www.aarecon.org.

Shabbat Service: Chabad. Begins at candle lighting time. Home hospitality available for Shabbat meals and Jewish holidays. Call (734) 995-3276 in advance.

Weekly Shabbat services

Shabbat Services: AAOM. Morning service at UM Hillel, 9:30 a.m. Home Hospitality for Shabbat and Holiday Meals: Contact: welcome@annarborminyan.org.

Shabbat Services: BIC. 9:30 a.m. For other service times, visit www.bethisrael-aa.org.

Shabbat Services: AARC. Second Saturday of each month at the JCC. 10 a.m. Ta-Shma/Come and Learn. Service begins at 10:30 a.m. Traditional liturgy with music, chanting and contemporary readings and discussion. For information, email info@aarecon.org, phone (734) 445-1910, or visit www.aarecon.org.

Shabbat Services: Chabad. Friday night services at Shabbat candle lighting time. Saturday morning services at 9:45 a.m. Afternoon Mincha services 45 minutes before sundown. Call (734) 995-3276 for Home Hospitality and Meals for Shabbat and Jewish Holidays.

Shabbat Services: Pardes Hannah. Generally meets the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month. Call (734) 663-4039 for more information. 10 a.m. Led by Rabbi Elliot Ginsburg.

Shabbat Services: TBE. Torah Study at 8:50 a.m. Morning Minyan with Rabbi Josh Whinston and Cantor Regina Lambert-Hayut at 9:30 a.m. Sanctuary Service at 10 a.m. most weeks. Call the office at (734) 665-4744 or consult website at www.templebethemeth.org for service details.

Home Hospitality and Meals: Chabad. Every Shabbat and Holiday. Call (734) 995-3276 in advance.

Phone numbers and addresses of organizations frequently listed in the calendar:

Ann Arbor Orthodox Minyan (AAOM)
1429 Hill Street 248-408-3269
Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Congregation (AARC)
2935 Birch Hollow Drive 913-9705
Beth Israel Congregation (BIC)
2000 Washtenaw Ave. 665-9897
Chabad House
715 Hill Street 995-3276
Jewish Community Center (JCC)
2935 Birch Hollow Drive 971-0990
Jewish Cultural Society (JCS)
2935 Birch Hollow Drive 975-9872
Jewish Family Services (JFS)
2245 South State Street 769-0209
Jewish Federation
2939 Birch Hollow Drive 677-0100
Pardes Hannah
2010 Washtenaw Ave. 761-5324
Temple Beth Emeth (TBE)
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Rosh Hashanah Seder in Israel: More than Dipping Apples in Honey

By Shifra Epstein

In 2018, I received a Rosh Hashanah Seder Plate as a present from Gabi Akshtein, the owner and founder of Art Judaica. I had visited the company as part of my research on contemporary Judaica used by Jews from

walks of life. Art Judaica, located in the city of Yavne, south of Tel Aviv in central Israel, is a wholesaler to more than 1000 shops both in Israel and around the world. This year, I used the plate during a Rosh Hashanah Seder at our home in Ann Arbor.

Many people identify the word *seder* only with Passover. However, for many Israelis and, recently, also American Jews, a *seder* also occurs during Rosh Hashanah. Like the Passover Seder, the Rosh Hashanah Seder features a variety of foods associated with the holiday as well as with the wishes of the Seder participants.

Perhaps best illustrating the renewed interest of the Rosh Hashanah Seder among Israelis and American Jews are the Rosh Hashanah Seder plates manufactured in China by Israeli companies specializing in inexpensive objects of Judaica for all. The plate given to me by Gabi Akshtein is made of aluminum in the shape of a pomegranate (40 cm), with eight indentations labeled in Hebrew and English for eight of the most popular food items in the Rosh Hashanah Seder. From the top (clockwise): Apple with honey; fish head; dates; beans; leek; beet; gourd; pomegranate. The blessing of Shana Tova is in the center.

You can buy Rosh Hashanah Seder plates online at Amazon and at Ahuva.com, to mention just a few sites.

The tradition of eating special food on Rosh Hashanah goes back to the Talmud, when Rabbi Abbaye first suggested eating or gazing over five foods on Rosh Hashanah. Listing them in their Aramaic names, they included rubia (small beans), K'ra (pumpkin), Karti (leeks), Silka (beet), and tamer (dates).

Following Rabbi Abbaye, the Jews of Sephardic, Middle Eastern, North African and Indian origins had Rosh Hashanah Seder during two days of Rosh Hashanah where special food was eaten. With the renewed interest in Jewish traditions of the past among many Israelis today, Rosh Hashanah Seder is now celebrated by many Israelis of different backgrounds and religious observance.

Today, as in the past, the foods selected for Rosh Hashanah Seder and the blessings said over them are chosen because of their inherent Hebrew and Aramaic meanings, which evoke the participants' wishes for the coming year. The most popular foods for the Rosh Hashanah Seder in Israel today, and their blessings, include the following:

Dates. (Tamar in Hebrew, tamri in Aramaic). Tamar is associated with the Hebrew word tam, meaning end.

May it be Your will, Lord our God and the God of our ancestors, that there come an end to our enemies, haters, and those who wish evil upon us.

Beans. (Sheuit in Hebrew, Rubia in Aramaic). Associated with the Hebrew words, rav, meaning many, and lev, meaning heart.

May it be Your will, Lord our God and the God of our ancestors, that our merits shall increase and that You hearten us.

Leek. (Karti in Aramaic, krisha in Hebrew). Related to the word karat, to cut.

May it be Your will, Lord our God and the God of our ancestors, that our enemies, haters, and those who wish evil upon us shall be cut down.

Beets. (salka in Aramaic, Selek in Hebrew). Selek relates to the word depart.

May it be Your will, Lord our God and the God of our ancestors, that our enemies, haters and those who wish evil upon us shall depart.

Gourd. K'ra in Aramaic, Delaat in Hebrew. Related to the word K'ra, to rip apart, and kara, to announce.

May it be Your will, Lord our God and the God of our ancestors, that the evil of our verdicts be ripped, and that our merits be announced before you.

Pomegranates. (Rimonim in Hebrew)

May it be Your will, Lord our God and the God of our ancestors, that we be filled with mitzvot like a pomegranate [is filled with seeds].

Apples and honey. Some have the custom of using an apple cooked with sugar.

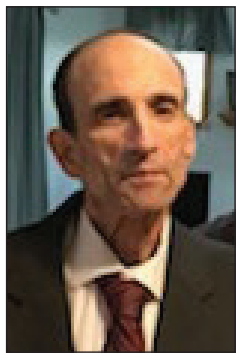
May it be Your will, Lord our God and the God of our ancestors, that You renew for us a year good and sweet like honey.

Ram's head (or the head of another kosher animal or fish).

May it be Your will, Lord our God and the God of our ancestors, that we be a head and not a tail. ■

Obituaries

Dr. Stephen B. Segall, 76, of Ann Arbor, Michigan, died on 26 September 2019.Dr. Segall was the author of *Understanding the Exodus: And Other Mysteries of Jewish History (2003)*. Beloved husband of 54 years of Miriam Segall. Cherished father of Dror Segall, Shai (Patricia) Segall, Orna (Dale) Angus, and Irit (Max) Nayden. Proud grandfather of Scarlett Segall, Aden and Sara Angus, and Eva, Sarina, and Samantha Nayden. Loving brother of Robert (Arlene) Segall. Arrangements by The Ira Kaufman Chapel.



Don Michael Blumenthal, 67, of Ann Arbor, Michigan, died on September 28, 2019. Beloved husband of 24 years of Jane Blumenthal. Devoted son of the late Ruth and the late Robert Blumenthal. Cherished brother of David Ben Blumenthal and the late Tracy Ann Blumenthal. Reprinted from the CAUSE blog: It is with a heavy heart that we note the passing of dear friend, colleague and member of the CAUCE board of directors, Don Blumenthal. Don was an anti-spammer for as long a there was an anti-spam community: he helped design, deploy and maintain the famous 'Spam Fridge', the repository of junk email maintained by the Federal Trade Commission (FTC).

Don was a welcome, active participant to the Anti-Phishing Working Group (APWG.org), at the meetings held by the Messaging Anti-Abuse Working Group (M3AAWG.org), the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (icaan.org) and, of course, he was a long-time board member of the Coalition Against Unsolicited Commercial Email (CAUCE.org).

His interests also lay outside the realm of anti-abuse work, Don was a football scout for the Oakland Raiders. Don Blumenthal worked tireless to make the Internet a better place, had a considerable degree of success doing so, and he will be sorely missed by us all. Simply put, he was a tremendously nice guy. Arrangements by The Ira Kaufman Chapel.

William Hoyt Bikoff, a resident of Ann Arbor, was born in Brooklyn, New York on November 29, 1924. He died Thursday, September 26, 2019, in Oakland, California after a period of declining health. The son of the late Sadie H. Reibstein and Dr. Harry S. Bikoff, Bill grew up in Brooklyn. Through the Navy College Training Program, he acquired his undergraduate degree from Columbia University and his M.D. from New York University.

Bill completed his pediatric internship and residency at Brooklyn Jewish Hospital. He married the love of his life, Carole Schwartz ("I knew she was the one as soon as I met her"), in 1948. He was a Lieutenant JG in the Navy from 1951 to 1953, then opened a pediatric practice in Plainview, Long Island. Devoted to his patients, Bill remained in practice until the early 1990s and also served as Clinical Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at Stony Brook University.

Bill and Carole were married for 67 years. They raised five children and enjoyed a wide circle of friends, attending theater and symphonies, visiting museums, and traveling the world. Bill was an avid swimmer, teaching generations of family to swim in their rhododendron-framed backyard pool. He was a gifted, classically trained pianist who loved to play in his spare time, delighting family and friends with elegant renderings of his favorite jazz and classical selections. Bill was on call 24/7 as the ever-patient, wise, caring "Dr. Poppy" to his and Carole's growing family. He was treasured for stitching up neighborhood kids' scrapes and giving shots that never hurt.

Bill was a beloved son, brother, husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, uncle, cousin, and friend. He was predeceased by Carole, and by his daughter, Robin Morrell. He is survived by his sister, Dr. Phyllis Robbins; his children, Jody Bikoff, Richard Bikoff, Amy Bikoff, and Elizabeth Goodman; his brother-in-law, Robert Schwartz; his sons-in-law, Jack Goodman and Douglas Morrell; his daughter-in-law, Rose Strogatz; his grandchildren, Rebecca McCaskey, Sara Straweka, Evan McCaskey, Emilie Kirkpatrick, Rachel Goodman, Alexander Goodman, Matthew Bikoff, and Joshua Goodman; his great-grandchildren, Abigail Straweka, Alison Straweka, Bennett Straweka, Robin Fripps, Eloisa McCaskey, Matilda McCaskey, and Theodore McCaskey; and dozens of nieces, nephews, and cousins. He is adored and deeply missed. Funeral services arranged by The Dorfman Chapel.

Aviva Nadia Kleinbaum, 72, of Saline, Michigan, died on October 16, 2019. Beloved wife of Robert Kleinbaum. Cherished mother of Ian (Stephanie) Mutchnick, Aric (Caryn) Mutchnick and Daniel (Sarah) Kleinbaum. Adoring grandmother of Gabe, Mimi, Zander and Asher. Dear sister of Ora, Ilana, Amira and Nissim. Arrangements by The Ira Kaufman Chapel. ■

Harold Bloom dreamed in Yiddish until his death

Gabe Friedman

NEW YORK (JTA) — Many obituaries of Harold Bloom, the lion of American literary criticism who passed away on Monday at 89, mention that he was born to Orthodox Jewish immigrants from Eastern Europe.

Few mention his lifelong love of Yiddish, and particularly Yiddish theater, which he grew up watching in New York City (although The New York Times one does say that the first book Bloom read was an anthology of Yiddish poetry).

In what was likely one of Bloom's last interviews, taped only a few weeks before his death, he spoke with the Yiddish Book Center for its Wexler Oral History Project. The project has shared some of the highlights and video from the interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

"I still dream in Yiddish"

"As a very small child, 3, 4 years old, I was sent to Sholem Aleichem schools … they were all over the Bronx. So, pretty good early education that was strictly in Yiddish … But to this day my English is very curious because I learned it only through the eye and not through the ear. I didn't, in fact, hear English spoken until I was about 5 1/2. I was a preternaturally early reader and at 5 or 6, I was already reading Shakespeare and trying to read Milton and so on. But English is, of course, a very peculiar language, as Bernard Shaw complains, the orthography and the pronunciation have nothing in common. So to this day, I speak my own curious, inflected English. It doesn't sound like anybody else's. So as far as I'm concerned, I still dream in Yiddish."

On whether he still read Yiddish

"Of course. Jabotinsky did a [Yiddish] version of Dante. I've been writing about Dante recently, and reading it in the Italian. I looked at Jabotinsky's [Yiddish] translation, which is very strange. A very strange man, Jabotinsky. But there's a sadness in all of it because I doubt that there's one Jew alive today in Odessa."

"The first book I ever owned was a New Testament in Yiddish"

"Funnily enough, the first book I ever owned myself, and it still strikes me as hilarious, was a New Testament in Yiddish. One day, the doorbell rang and a missionary handed it to me. So I read it years later, since I became a classics major at Cornell. We spent a semester reading the New Testament. Even as a child, I conceived a dislike of it, which I've made clear many times, saying that indeed it should be called the Belated Testament and Tanakh [Hebrew Bible] the Original Testament. One of my many ways of making enemies, of whom God knows I have a plethora."

"A lot of the best poetry written in the United States is in Yiddish"

"A lot of the best poetry written in the United States is in Yiddish … Moyshe-Leyb Halpern in particular, he was an amazing poet. "The Yiddish Baudelaire," they called him, but he's not at all like Baudelaire. He is quite unique … The humor. Violently funny. The mastery of the language. Unfortunately, he was dead before my time. I knew [Jacob] Glatstein pretty well. He was not as unlikable as [Isaac] Bashevis [Singer], but he wasn't a very sweet person."

"The first Shakespeare plays I ever saw were in Yiddish"

"My three wonderful older sisters steadily took me to the Second Avenue Theater. Unfortunately, Thomashefsky and Jacob Adler were already gone, but Maurice Schwartz was there. The first Shakespeare plays I ever saw were in Yiddish at the Second Avenue Theater and I will never forget my experience. This is about 1938 and I'm 8 years old. The magnificent Maurice Schwartz is Shylock. But this has all been marvelously rewritten, in Yiddish — as they said, 'farbesert' — improved.

"Schwartz was an enormous man. He had a gigantic black beard and a big booming voice, and he played the histrionic old Russian style, like Jacob Adler and Thomashefsky. So there he is, waiving an enormous scalpel, and he's approaching Antonio, the trembling 'sheygetz' [rascal], who is stripped to the waist and suddenly with a histrionic shudder that you could feel all through the Second Avenue Theater, Maurice Schwartz drops the scalpel and screams out 'Ikh bin dokh a yid,' which is of course untranslatable. It's like – well, after all I'm Jewish and we don't do this sort of thing. At which, the play stopped and I got used to this at the Second Avenue Theater. Everybody in the audience cheered. Schwartz ran from one side of the stage to the other, interrupting the performance, bowing and throwing kisses to the women in the audience. Women dashed forward throwing roses at him. It became a sort of general tumult. It was 20 minutes before the play could resume. I loved it."

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ypzm71mWpY0&app=desktop

"'Death of a Salesman' … works beautifully as a Yiddish tragedy"

"I never thought much of 'Death of a Salesman' until an actor with whom I was close, Joseph Buloff, translated it into Yiddish and acted the part of Willy Loman, and he invited me to see it in New York. It was marvelous. The whole point is it works beautifully as a Yiddish tragedy, but makes no sense as an American tragedy. But in Yiddish as rendered by Buloff and acted by Buloff, it had real power."

On describing Yiddish culture

"My favorite Yiddish proverb I translate, 'Sleep faster, we need the pillows.' That's the essence of it. Compassionate, and conducting a kind of implicit quarrel with God. Remember the great statement of Benya Krik in Babel's great story 'How It Was In Odessa'? After his hoods have shot this highly meek and gentle Jewish clerk, a mother is complaining. And Benya says, magnificently, 'All right, so I made a mistake. Even God makes mistakes. He could have put us in Switzerland surrounded by nothing but thousands of lakes and millions of Frenchies, but where did he put us? Here, in godforsaken Russia.'" ■

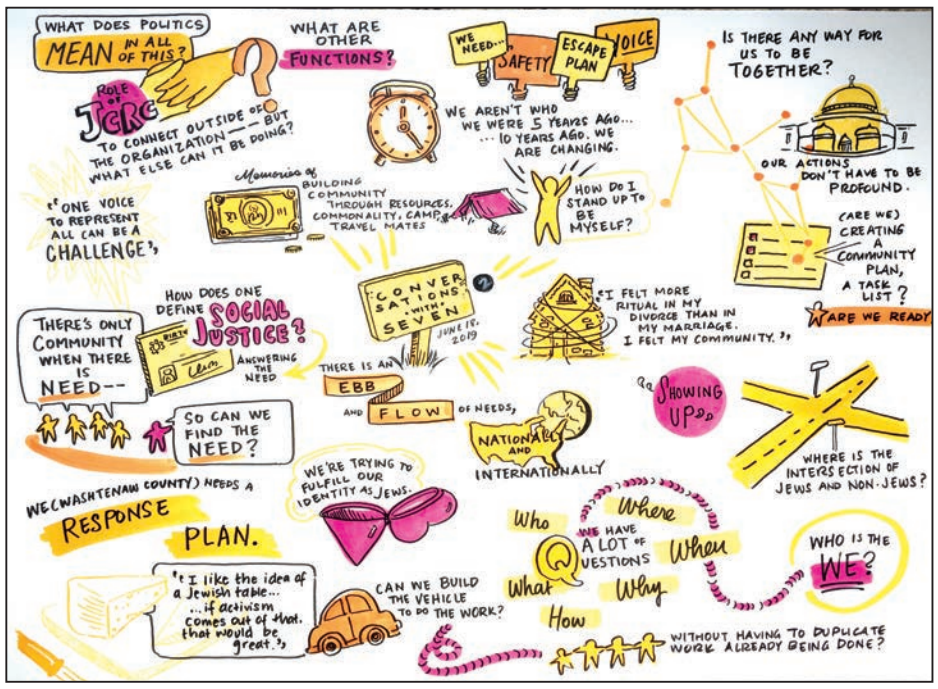
Conversations with 7

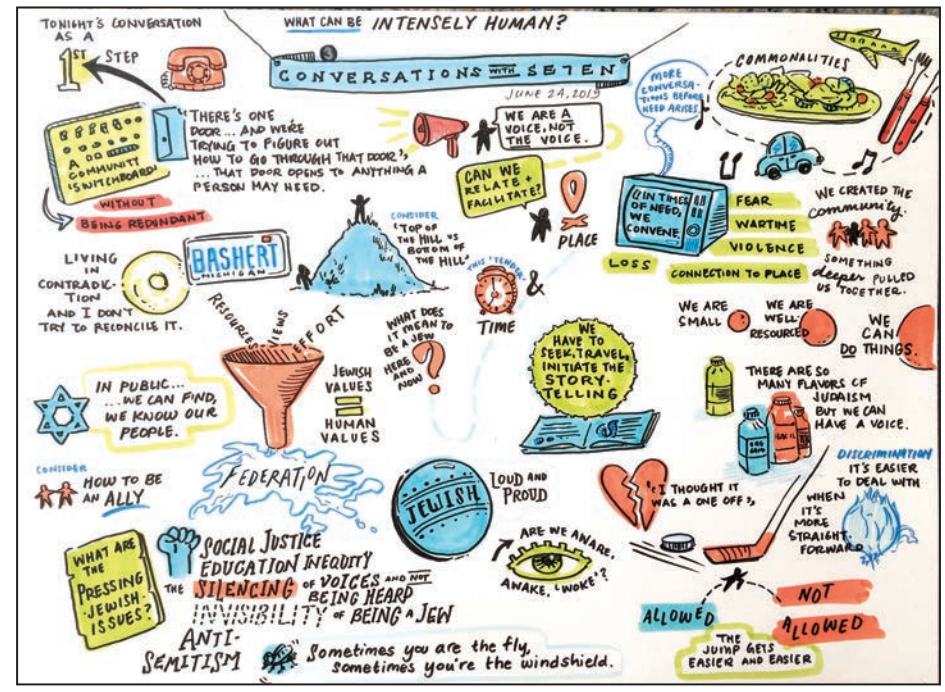
Eileen Freed, special to the WJN

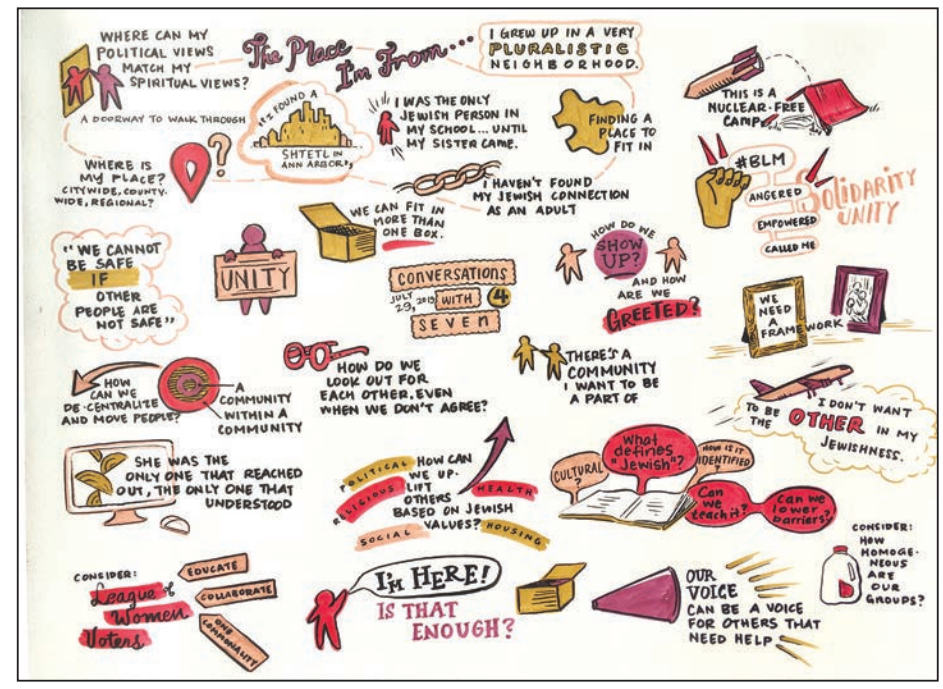
Under the leadership of Federation board member Jessica "Decky" Alexander, the Jewish Community Relations Committee (JCRC) of the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor has been convening a series of dinner dialogues called *Conversations with 7.*

Conversations with 7 was conceived as a community building exercise to engage as many people as possible in the development, design and implementation of the JCRC. The aim is to gather input from people representing differing Jewish ideological, faith and cultural perspectives from across Washtenaw County and to utilize the feedback to inform and help define the JCRC's mission, vision, structure and direction.

To date, five conversations were hosted, and another two are planned for November. Each discussion is captured by graphic and illustration artist Yen Azzaro and provides an illustrated map of the issues raised by participants.







Questions considered by the groups included:

- Was there a time in your history - big or small - when the Jewish 'community' spoke on your behalf or when you found that a communal voice, Jewish or otherwise was powerful?
- As a Jew, living in this community, what are some of the most important or pressing issues that could be addressed in the public space?
- On what issues should we collaborate or connect with other faith and cultural communities?

"The Conversations are inspiring, challenging and revealing," shares Decky, but mostly they have been these necessary communal happenings among people who may not know each other but do indeed have a shared history, faith and/or culture."

At the completion of the *Conversations with 7*, a meeting of all participants and other interested community members will be convened to explore the key themes and commonalities that arose from the conversations and to develop a plan for next steps in the development of the JCRC. Federation's Jewish Communal Leadership Program intern, Courtney Bushnell, will work with Decky to shepherd this process.

There are over 125 local Jewish community relations councils or committees in the United States. Some are separate nonprofit entities, while others are projects of local Jewish federations. While they each have their own individual missions and foci, they all serve the purpose of intentionally:

- representing the Jewish community in key local (political, social and cultural) conversations and happenings,
- collaborating with other culture and/or faith groups in regards to local and community issues, and
- engaging/developing social justice, cultural awareness, and/or politically relevant programming for the Jewish community and/or the community at large.

Community members who are interested in participating in a *Conversation with 7* or in the further development of the Jewish Community Relations Committee, are encouraged to contact Courtney at interns@jewishannarbor.org or 734-677-0100. ■

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Vitals

Condolences

Howard Stein on the death of his mother, Beulah Stein, September 13
Betsy, Ann and Ira Mark on the death of their aunt, Harriet Usem, September 13.
Shoshannah Lenski on the death of her grandmother, Dolly Honig, September 16.
Barry Shapiro on the death of his cousin, Jerry Shweisky, September 18.
Yossi Bergman on the death of his brother, Samuel Bergman, September 19.
Carol (Bob) Milstein on the death of her cousin, Nan Grylls, September 26.
Prudence Rosenthal on the death of her brother, H. Gates (Terry) Lloyd, September 27.
Emily Alter, Andrew (Carrie) Bank and Allison (Aaron Heller) Bank on the death of Harvey Lee Blumberg, September 30.
Bernard Dempsey (Karen Pollens) on the death of his mother, Patricia Dempsey, October 9.
Dina Pedersen and Sheri Eisenbeiser on the death of their mother and sister, Sandra Aperman, October 10.
Amy Davidoff on the death of her father, Jim Polacheck, October 11

Mazel tov

Eric & Christine Nemon on the birth of their son, Caleb John Nemon, brother of Conner and Maya and grandson of Barry Nemon & Barbara Stark-Nemon.
Errol & Pat Soskolne on the birth of their grandson, Finn Soskolne, son of Mark & Julie Soskolne and brother of Lincoln.
Paul & Leah Kileny on the birth of their granddaughter, Hannah Allyn, daughter of Joel & Jenny Kileny.
Florence & Marvin Gerber on the birth of their granddaughter, daughter of Carmel Gerber and sister of Eden Gerber.
Brenna Likosky on her Bat Mitzvah, November 9.
Sam Ball on his Bar Mitzvah, November 9.

Yom Kippur synagogue attack from page 8

named Stephan Balliet, shot at the doors and tried to use explosives to blow them up. When he failed, he shot dead a woman who passed by on the street and then killed another man at a nearby kebab shop.

"This was an effective passive security measure that saved lives," Revach said, "but it needs to be coupled with fast response and surveillance."

Revach said new technologies, like facial recognition software that can provide early warning when a known threat is spotted near a Jewish institution, can give law enforcement an edge. He said that the deployment of these technologies has been hampered by European Union privacy laws.

"The solution is smarter use of the resources at hand, not throwing more soldiers and guns at Jewish institutions," Revach said. "It costs too much money to be sustainable and frankly only refers perpetrators to the more vulnerable targets."

Some German Jews wonder whether anything their government does at this point is sufficient to allow Jews to live in the country safely. Henryk Broder, a Jewish author and one of Germany's best-known celebrities, takes a pessimistic view.

"It's time to face the truth: There is no place for Jews in Europe, or at least no safe place for them," he told JTA. Jews can either leave or "spend the rest of their lives in a gated community, being protected by the state."

"I don't consider this Jewish community life," Broder said. "I consider it Jewish community survival."

Lagodinsky, the European Parliament lawmaker, agrees that the Halle killings are a "wake-up call" from a security perspective, but insists that German Jewry will prevail despite the security challenges.

"We must become more visible, not less," Lagodinsky said. "We must not close inwards, but open up and build bridges to allies who understand that it's not Jews who need to fight anti-Semites but the entire society." ■

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YOU POWER ABILITY

Finish high school. Join the IDF. Get a degree. This path is not always easy and straightforward. Liat, an Ethiopian-Israeli student from Afula, experienced difficulty preparing for her high school graduation exam. She found the material too hard to learn on her own and did not feel confident in taking the exam.

Through the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor's support of the Ethiopian National Project, a program that helps Ethiopian-Israeli youth reach their full potential through holistic programming, Liat was able to find the one-on-one support and encouragement she needed to successfully pass her high school exam and graduate. She plans to join the army this coming year.

Your gift powers programs that empower Israelis in minority communities and build social change. Across Ann Arbor and across oceans, your support powers innumerable moments that build, ensure, and enrich Jewish life.

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No organization powers more Jewish moments than the Federation.

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